

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

CONCORD ROTARY CLUB

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1979

IN THE MONTHS AHEAD, THE PEOPLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WILL BE BOMBARDED WITH CRITICISM OF THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON. YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR FROM A HOST OF CANDIDATES THAT JIMMY CARTER HAS FAILED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH INFLATION, HAS FAILED TO CUT TAXES, HAS FAILED TO FORMULATE A COHERENT AND FORCEFUL FOREIGN POLICY, HAS FAILED TO MAINTAIN AMERICAN DEFENSE AT A LEVEL ADEQUATE TO OUR NEEDS.

ALL OF WHICH IS PARTIALLY TRUE. THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION HAS COMPILED A LITANY OF BROKEN PROMISES AND EMPTY RHETORIC THAT HAVE ERODED EVEN THE NARROW MANDATE OF 1976. BUT CRITICISM COMES CHEAP. THESE DAYS OF DOUBLE DIGIT INFLATION, IT MAY BE THE ONLY THING THAT DOES.

APPLAUSE LINES ARE NOT ENOUGH TO WIN THE CONFIDENCE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. WE'VE GOT TO DO MORE THAN SAY JIMMY CARTER'S FAILED AND WE'RE AVAILABLE. THE PEOPLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DESERVE MORE CREATIVE LEADERSHIP THAN THAT.

PRODUCTIVITY--A BETTER IDEA

PUBLIC ENEMY #1 IS INFLATION AND THE ECONOMIC STAGNATION FOSTERED BY BIG GOVERNMENT. JIMMY CARTER DIDN'T START OUR SLIDE TOWARD THE PANIC AND POLARIZATION THAT PERMANENT INFLATION CREATES. BUT FACTS ARE FACTS, AND THE PAINFUL TRUTH IS THAT INFLATION HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED SINCE PRESIDENT CARTER TOOK OFFICE IN JANUARY, 1977. EVEN WORSE, THIS ADMINISTRATION SEEMS UNABLE TO COMPREHEND HOW THIS CAME ABOUT, OR HOW TO ATTACK INFLATION AT ITS ROOTS.

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FOR 13 YEARS, WITH ONLY BRIEF PAUSES IN THE UPWARD SPIRAL, THE AMERICAN ECONOMY HAS LIVED OFF A GLORIOUS PAST. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DIVIDED INTO WARRING CAMPS. BUSINESS VERSUS LABOR, FARMER VERSUS CONSUMER, INVESTOR VERSUS SPENDER, TENANT VERSUS LANDLORD, TAXPAYER VERSUS GOVERNMENT. WE ARE ON THE VERGE OF BECOMING A WE VERSUS THEY SOCIETY, AT A COST FAR HIGHER THAN HAMBURGER OR GASOLINE. AND OUR POLITICIANS HAVE FAILED TO CHART THE COURSE TO SOMETHING BETTER THAN MERE SURVIVAL.

WE ARE JUST BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND THE RELATION BETWEEN PRODUCTIVITY AND PRICES.

A NATION THAT SACRIFICES PRODUCTIVITY INVITES HIGH PRICES, AND A STAGNANT ECONOMY. UNTIMATELY, IT SACRIFICES WORLD LEADERSHIP. FOR A WEAKENED DOLLAR IS AS DANGEROUS AS A SOVIET MISSILE.



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THE FACT IS, MODERN GOVERNMENT HAS PUT A STRANGLEHOLD ON THE GENIUS OF AMERICAN FREE ENTERPRISE. IT HAS REGULATED AWAY \$100 BILLION IN INVESTMENT EACH YEAR, AND PASSED THE COST ON TO THE CONSUMER. IT HAS ADOPTED TAX POLICIES THAT WORK AGAINST CAPITAL FORMATION, AND ACTUALLY DISCOURAGE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, SO THAT OTHER NATIONS--WEST GERMANY, FRANCE AND JAPAN, FOR INSTANCE--HAVE CAUGHT UP OR PASSED AMERICA IN THE TECHNOLOGY RACE. IT HAS PURSUED A POLICY OF REDISTRIBUTING EXISTING WEALTH, INSTEAD OF SEARCHING OUT AND DEVELOPING NEW WEALTH.

IT'S TIME TO REMIND WASHINGTON, YOU DON'T ACHIEVE FAIRNESS BY PROSECUTING THE PRODUCTIVE. YOU ACHIEVE INSTEAD, INFLATION, UNEMPLOYMENT AND A TARNISHED AMERICA, IN WHICH EVERYONE SHARES THE SAME GOAL--AN EQUAL SHARE OF MEDIOCRITY.

PRODUCING OUR WAY TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

NOWHERE HAS THIS SHORTSIGHTED APPROACH BEEN MORE HARMFUL TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE THAN IN THE ENERGY FIELD. I BELIEVE THAT THE ENERGY CRISIS CAN BE SOLVED, NOT SIMPLY BY RAISING TAXES OR CONSERVING WHAT OIL AND GAS SUPPLIES REMAIN IN THE GROUND, BUT BY VIGOROUSLY PROMOTING THE SEARCH FOR NEW OIL, NEW GAS AND ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF HEATING OUR HOMES AND FACTORIES.

THERE'S A HUNDRED YEARS OF ENERGY IN AMERICA'S SHALE OIL DEPOSITS. THE EQUIVALENT OF BILLIONS OF BARRELS OF OIL IN OUR COAL DEPOSITS. A RECENT CONGRESSIONAL STUDY ESTIMATES AS MANY AS THREE MILLION NEW JOBS COULD BE CREATED BY 1990 IN THE SOLAR INDUSTRY ALONE.

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HYDROELECTRIC, GEOTHERMAL, EVEN THE WIND AND WAVES THEMSELVES: A PRESIDENT AND A PARTY THAT BELIEVED IN OUR FUTURE WOULD BE PRESSING FORWARD NOW WITH DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH BOLD NEW IDEAS. I'M PUSHING FOR THE PRODUCTION OF GASOHOL, AN ALTERNATIVE FUEL COMBINING 10 PERCENT ALCOHOL WITH 90 PERCENT GASOLINE.

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, I SUGGESTED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXEMPT GASOHOL FROM THE 4¢ TAX IT COLLECTS ON CONVENTIONAL GAS. A FEW WEEKS AGO, THE PRESIDENT CAME AROUND TO THE SAME VIEWPOINT. AS RANKING REPUBLICAN ON THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, I WANT ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS TO STIMULATE THE PRODUCTION OF THIS ALTERNATIVE FUEL.

NO ONE CAN STAND HERE AND PROMISE YOU CHEAPER ENERGY NEXT YEAR. NO ONE CAN HONESTLY PROMISE THAT IT WILL COST LESS TO HEAT YOUR HOMES OR DRIVE YOUR CARS. BUT A POLITICIAN WHO SIMPLY WRINGS HIS HANDS AND BEMOANS THE FAILURES OF THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IS GUILTY OF BOTH NEGLIGENCE AND OPPORTUNISM.



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THE PRESIDENT IS TALKING LOUDLY ABOUT HIS WINDFALL PROFITS TAX. BUT LOOK A LITTLE CLOSER, AND YOU'LL SEE THAT MOST OF HIS RHETORIC JUST WON'T HOLD UP TO SCRUTINY. ANY TAX WE PASS SHOULD EXIST TO GAIN SOMETHING, MORE THAN POLITICAL POINTS--IT SHOULD BE DESIGNED CAREFULLY, NOT TO PUNISH-- BUT TO PROMOTE NEW PRODUCTION. IF WE ACCEPT DECONTROL, AND I DO, THEN CONSUMERS MUST AT LEAST BE GUARANTEED AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY TO MEET THEIR ENERGY NEEDS. IF IT TAKES A TOUGH TAX AND GOVERNMENT INSISTENCE THAT EXCESS PROFITS BE PLOWED BACK INTO THE SEARCH FOR MORE OIL AND GAS, THEN THE CONGRESS WILL SIMPLY HAVE TO FACE UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. I INTEND TO DO JUST THAT.

#### PRODUCING OUR WAY OUT OF INFLATION

WE MUST MOVE BEYOND ENERGY PRODUCTION, TO REVERSE THE LONG SLIDE IN OVERALL AMERICAN PRODUCTIVITY. I'D LIKE TO PROPOSE SEVERAL STEPS WE CAN TAKE NOW TO DO PRECISELY THAT. HERE AS ELSEWHERE, WHAT COUNTS IS NOT WHAT WE ARE AGAINST, BUT WHAT WE ARE FOR.

WE MUST BE FOR A BALANCED BUDGET, WRITING INTO THE VERY FABRIC OF THE CONSTITUTION SAFEGUARDS AGAINST A GOVERNMENT THAT WILL NEVER LIVE WITHIN ITS MEANS UNTIL IT HAS EXHAUSTED ALL OF OURS.

WE MUST BE FOR SUBSTANTIAL TAX REDUCTIONS, BOTH PERSONAL AND CORPORATE. CUTTING THE TAX BURDEN WILL PUT MORE MONEY IN THE HANDS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S CITIZENS. IT WILL ALSO STIMULATE INVESTMENT, STRENGTHEN THE DOLLAR AND HALT THE RELENTLESS DECLINE IN AMERICAN PRESTIGE AT HOME AND OVERSEAS.

WE MUST BE FOR A NATIONAL SYSTEM OF TAX INDEXING, WHICH WOULD DO AWAY WITH GOVERNMENT'S HABIT OF RAISING REVENUE THROUGH INFLATION. AS IT IS, WHEN YOU GET KICKED UPSTAIRS INTO A HIGHER BRACKET BECAUSE INFLATION HAS PUSHED UP YOUR WAGES, THEN GOVERNMENT SLITHERS IN TO SNATCH A LARGER PART OF THAT INCOME. IT'S CALLED "BRACKET CREEP" AND IT'S AS UNFAIR A WAY OF RAISING TAXES AS GOVERNMENT HAS EVER DEVISED.



INDEXING OUR TAX SYSTEM WOULD BE MUCH FAIRER. IT'S TIME HAS COME. BUT IT WILL TAKE AN ADMINISTRATION AND A CONGRESS THAT CARE ABOUT PRODUCTIVITY TO MAKE IT LAW.

THE PRODUCTIVE SOCIETY IS ALSO A CARING SOCIETY. IT REALIZES THAT AMERICA HAS YET TO FULFILL ALL HER PROMISE. IT FACES THE PROBLEMS OF OUR PEOPLE WITH A FRESH OUTLOOK, AND A LEGITIMATE CONFIDENCE.

### HEALTH INSURANCE

I WANT A HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN THAT WILL MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLE--WITHOUT BANKRUPTING OUR ECONOMY. I KNOW THAT CRADLE-TO-GRAVE HEALTH INSURANCE WON'T WORK. I KNOW IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE, TOO FARFETCHED TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF ADOPTION IN THIS OR ANY FORSEEABLE CONGRESS.

BUT THAT DOESN'T RELIEVE US OF OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET UNMET NEEDS. LAST YEAR SEVEN MILLION FAMILIES PAID 15 PERCENT OR MORE OF THEIR INCOME ON HEALTH COSTS. CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS POSES AN ECONOMIC THREAT OF DEVASTATING DIMENSION. IT'S THERE--WE CAN'T WISH IT AWAY. WE OUGHT TO ADDRESS IT WITH A FIRM PREFERENCE FOR THE PRIVATE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM, AND THE KNOWLEDGE THAT, UNLESS WE PLUG THOSE GAPS NOW, FUTURE CONGRESSES ARE LIKELY TO APPROVE A FAR MORE EXPENSIVE SYSTEM OF NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

THAT'S WHY I'VE INTRODUCED A HEALTH INSURANCE PACKAGE OF MY OWN. I WANT TO END THE THREAT OF BANKRUPTCY THAT ACCOMPANIES CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS IN AMERICA, AND I WANT TO END IT THIS YEAR.

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SALT

AND, WHEN WE PUT OUR OWN HOUSE IN ORDER, WE CAN TURN TO THE TASK OF REBUILDING AMERICAN PRESTIGE AND INFLUENCE ABROAD. LAST WEEK, THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED A NEW SALT AGREEMENT TO CONTROL THE DEADLY NUCLEAR ARMS RACE. I CONGRATULATE HIM ON THIS, EVEN AS I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ASK SOME TOUGH QUESTIONS ABOUT SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY.

I CARRY WITHIN THE WOUNDS OF WAR. I HAVE SEEN MEN DIE IN BATTLE. NO ONE DESERVES A WORLD AT PEACE MORE. BUT THE FIRST RESPONSIBILITY OF A U.S. SENATOR IS TO THE SECURITY OF HIS NATION. I COULD NOT LIVE NOR COULD YOU WITH AN ARMS CONTROL PACKAGE THAT INSTALLS THE SOVIET UNION IN PERMANENT SUPREMACY.



I VOTED FOR THE FIRST SALT TREATY. I WANT TO VOTE FOR SALT II. BUT WE WON'T BE VOTING ON THE PRINCIPLE OF ARMS CONTROL-- WE'LL BE VOTING ON A HIGHLY TECHNICAL PACKAGE. AND WE'LL BE VOTING AT A TIME WHEN AMERICA'S PRESTIGE ABROAD HAS FALLEN DANGEROUSLY LOW.

GREAT NATIONS SPEND DOLLARS FOR DEFENSE, OR THEY SPILL BLOOD IN BATTLE. WE CAN NEVER FORGET THIS PAINFUL LESSON OF HISTORY.

#### EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

FOR 18 YEARS, I HAVE SERVED IN THE CONGRESS. I KNOW HOW WASHINGTON WORKS AND HOW IT FAILS TO WORK. AS GERALD FORD'S RUNNING MATE IN 1976, I TRAVELED THE LENGTH OF AMERICA. I SAW WITH MY OWN EYES THE FRUSTRATION AND THE SUFFERING THAT OPPRESSIVE GOVERNMENT HAS CAUSED FOR MILLIONS OF OUR CITIZENS.

THE TIME HAS COME TO SAY ENOUGH, AND NO MORE, IT'S TIME FOR AMERICA TO BE GREAT AGAIN, IT'S TIME TO RETURN TO OUR BASIC FAITH IN PEOPLE INSTEAD OF GOVERNMENT, IN PRODUCTION INSTEAD OF CONSUMPTION, IN ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTEAD OF COMPLACENCY.

IT IS A TIME FOR FRESH BEGINNINGS. THE CHALLENGES ARE GREAT, THE RISKS ARE REAL, THE OPPORTUNITIES PROFOUND, IN THE WORDS OF THIS STATE'S GREATEST NATIVE SON, DANIEL WEBSTER, "I SHALL KNOW BUT ONE COUNTRY. THE ENDS I AIM AT SHALL BE MY COUNTRY'S, MY GOD'S, MY TRUTH'S."

HOLDING FAST TO WEBSTER'S MOTTO, RETURNING TO THE AMBITIONS WHICH LIFTED THIS COUNTRY TO THE SUMMIT OF GREATNESS, WE CAN RESTORE OUR ECONOMY AT HOME, OUR POSITION ABROAD.

AND THE TIME TO GET STARTED IS NOW.