

USG/Nixon  
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EXCERPTS: NIXON AT HUNTINGTON AND AT ASHLAND (1210)  
(UNDATED)--FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS OF POLITICAL ADDRESSES  
PRESIDENT NIXON DELIVERED OCTOBER 26 AT HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA,  
AND AT ASHLAND, KENTUCKY:

(BEGIN HUNTINGTON EXCERPTS)

... THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH IN THE  
NEGOTIATIONS WITH REGARD TO VIETNAM.

... BECAUSE OF THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE, I AM CONFIDENT  
THAT WE SHALL SUCCEED IN ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVE, WHICH IS PEACE  
WITH HONOR AND NOT PEACE WITH SURRENDER IN VIETNAM.

THERE ARE STILL DIFFERENCES TO BE WORKED OUT. I BELIEVE THAT  
THEY CAN AND WILL BE WORKED OUT. BUT LET ME GO ON BEYOND THAT.

AMERICA HAS BEEN IN WARS AND HAS ENDED WARS BEFORE IN THIS  
CENTURY, BUT THE GREAT TRAGEDY IS THAT WE END ONE WAR AND THEN,  
BEFORE A GENERATION IS OVER, WE ARE IN ANOTHER ONE. AND THE GOAL  
THAT I HAVE SOUGHT, THE GOAL THAT ALL OF YOU WANT, THAT ALL  
AMERICANS WANT, IS NOT JUST A PEACE THAT IS SIMPLY A PERIOD  
OF REST BETWEEN WARS, BUT REAL PEACE THAT WILL LAST.

... WHAT I WANT IS A GENERATION OF PEACE, AND BEYOND THAT,  
ANOTHER GENERATION OF PEACE. THAT IS WHY NOT ONLY ARE WE ENDING THE  
WAR IN VIETNAM IN A WAY THAT WILL PROMOTE THE INTEREST OF  
PEACE, BUT THAT IS WHY WE WENT TO PEKING; THAT IS WHY WE WENT  
TO MOSCOW. (END HUNTINGTON EXCERPTS)

EXCERPTS--PAGE 2

(BEGIN ASHLAND EXCERPTS)

WHEN WE SPEAK OF PEACE, I KNOW THE IMMEDIATE THOUGHT THAT COMES THROUGH OUR MINDS, AND IT IS ONE THAT HAS BEEN COMING THROUGH OUR MINDS FOR MANY YEARS, THROUGH THE YEARS THAT AMERICA HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE LONGEST WAR IN ITS HISTORY. IT IS A WAR THAT BEGAN LONG BEFORE I CAME INTO OFFICE IN 1969. IT IS ONE THAT WE HAVE WOUND DOWN. IT IS ONE...IN WHICH THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

...ON MAY THE 8TH, WHEN I MADE THE DIFFICULT DECISION OF MINING THE HARBORS OF NORTH VIETNAM, AND BOMBING MILITARY TARGETS, I LAID OUT THREE GOALS FOR PEACE. I THOUGHT THEY WERE REASONABLE GOALS, AND THEY WERE THESE: FIRST, THERE SHOULD BE A CEASE-FIRE; STOP THE KILLING. SECOND, ALL OF AMERICA'S POWS SHOULD BE RETURNED AND ALL OF OUR MISSING IN ACTION SHOULD BE ACCOUNTED FOR. AND THIRD, THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM, THE 17 MILLION PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN SOUTH VIETNAM, SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN FUTURE WITHOUT HAVING A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT IMPOSED UPON THEM AGAINST THEIR WILL BY FORCE. THOSE WERE THE THREE GOALS.

EXCERPTS--PAGE 3

NOW, BASED ON THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE, I CAN SAY WITH CONFIDENCE... THAT I BELIEVE THAT WE CAN SUCCEED IN ACHIEVING THOSE GOALS. I BELIEVE THAT WE WILL SUCCEED IN ACHIEVING... PEACE WITH HONOR AND NOT SURRENDER FOR AMERICA. THE DAY HAS NOT YET COME. THERE ARE STILL SOME DIFFERENCES THAT MUST BE RESOLVED. I BELIEVE THEY WILL BE RESOLVED.

... A DAY WILL COME, ONE DAY, WHEN THE WAR WILL BE OVER.

LET ME TELL YOU, THAT, OF COURSE, IS A GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT ANYONE WHO SITS IN THAT OVAL OFFICE, AS I DO, AND WRITES THE LETTERS TO THE MOTHERS, TO THE WIVES, TO THE NEXT OF KIN OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED; ANYONE WHO SEES THE WOUNDED, THE OTHERS, THE ONES WHO HAVE SERVED SO MAGNIFICENTLY; ANYONE WHO HAS TALKED, AS I HAVE, TO THE BRAVE WIVES OF POWS -- WHAT YOU WANT MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IS TO GET THE WAR OVER.

BUT ALSO, WHAT YOU WANT IS TO GET IT OVER WITH HONOR. NOT SIMPLY BECAUSE OF SOME NATIONAL EGO. YOU WANT TO GET IT OVER WITH HONOR BECAUSE BY ENDING IT IN AN HONORABLE WAY, BY ENDING IT IN THE RIGHT WAY, YOU MAY LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR NOT HAVING ANOTHER WAR IN THAT SAME GENERATION.

EXCERPTS--PAGE 4

THAT IS WHY WE HAVE INSISTED ON THESE CONDITIONS THAT I HAVE LAID DOWN, AND THAT IS WHY, AS THIS WAR DOES COME TO A CONCLUSION, IT WILL BE CONCLUDED IN A WAY, WE BELIEVE, THAT WILL DISCOURAGE AGGRESSION IN THE FUTURE RATHER THAN ENCOURAGE IT.

THAT IS JUST THE BEGINNING. LET ME TAKE YOU A LITTLE FURTHER, HOWEVER, ON THIS WHOLE PROSPECT FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD.

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT EASIER, AS A MATTER OF FACT, SOMEWHAT TEMPTING, DURING THESE PAST FOUR YEARS TO WORK AS WE DID ONLY IN TRYING TO BRING THE WAR IN VIETNAM TO AN END. AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SOME SATISFACTION TO HAVE BROUGHT HOME 500,000, AS WE DID, TO REDUCE THE CASUALTIES 98 PERCENT, AS WE DID, TO GET TO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS THAT NOW HAVE A GOOD CHANCE FOR SUCCESS, BUT WE DID NOT STOP THERE. THE REASON WE DID NOT STOP THERE IS THAT, AS I LOOKED AT THE WORLD, I SAW THAT ONCE THE WAR WAS OVER IN THIS SMALL PART OF THE WORLD, THERE STILL HUNG OVER THE WORLD A GREATER DANGER POTENTIALLY IN THE FUTURE.

THERE WAS ANOTHER SUPER-POWER, THE SOVIET UNION. AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR TERM IN OFFICE, WE WERE IN CONFRONTATION WITH THAT SUPER-POWER. AND THEN THERE WAS THE HUGE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WHERE ONE-FOURTH OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WERE LIVING, AND WITH WHICH THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THEIR GOVERNMENT HAD HAD NO COMMUNICATION FOR A PERIOD OF OVER 20 YEARS.

EXCERPTS--PAGE 5

AS I STUDIED THAT SITUATION AT THE BEGINNING OF MY TERM IN OFFICE, LONG BEFORE IT BEGAN, I DETERMINED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT WE BUILD A WORLD ORDER IN WHICH GOVERNMENTS COULD HAVE THEIR DIFFERENCES, IN WHICH GOVERNMENTS COULD BE BUILT ON DIFFERENT PHILOSOPHIES, BUT IN WHICH THE PEOPLES OF NATIONS WITH DIFFERENT PHILOSOPHIES AND DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS NEED NOT NECESSARILY BE ENEMIES.

I FELT THIS WAS ESSENTIAL, ESSENTIAL PARTICULARLY WHEN WHAT WAS INVOLVED WAS NOT A CONVENTIONAL BUT A NUCLEAR WAR WHICH NO ONE WOULD WIN, WHERE THERE WOULD BE ONLY LOSERS, AND SO WE BEGAN IN JANUARY 1969 NOT ONLY TO BRING AN END TO THE WAR IN VIETNAM, BUT TO ESTABLISH A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND A BEGINNING OF A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. THE YEAR 1972, IN THIS YEAR, HAS PERHAPS SEEN, AS HISTORIANS WILL RECORD, MORE PROGRESS TOWARD TRUE PEACE IN THE WORLD THAN ANY YEAR SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR TWO.

EXCERPTS--PAGE 6

I DON'T MEAN IT IS HERE. I DON'T MEAN SIMPLY BECAUSE WE WENT TO PEKING AND ESTABLISHED A DIALOGUE THAT WE ARE NOT GOING TO HAVE DIFFERENCES WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. WE WILL HAVE. AND I DON'T MEAN THAT BECAUSE WE HAVE HAD AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT AND TRADE AGREEMENTS AND EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS AND HEALTH AGREEMENTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE SOVIET UNION THAT WE ARE NOT GOING TO CONTINUE TO HAVE DIFFERENCES WITH THE SOVIET UNION. WE WILL.

THEIRS ARE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS; OURS IS A FREE GOVERNMENT. AND SOMZTIMES OUR INTERESTS WILL COME IN CONTRADICTION TO EACH OTHER. BUT WHAT WE HAVE DONE, YOU SEE, WHAT WE HAVE DONE IS NOW TO HAVE REPLACED WHAT WAS A HOPELESS SITUATION, HOPELESS, WITH THE GREAT POWERS MOVING DOWN THE ROAD TO AN INEVITABLE COLLISION AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE, WITH NOW A HOPEFUL SITUATION IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE NEGOTIATING THEIR DIFFERENCES AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE. WE NEGOTIATE HARD, BUT WE NEGOTIATE, AND WE SETTLE THEM; IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TALK ABOUT THEIR DIFFERENCES. WE NEGOTIATE HARD, BUT WE HAVE NOW DEVELOPED AT LEAST A DIALOGUE.

(END ASHLAND EXCERPTS) ITEM

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