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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET **Ronald Reagan Library**

Collection: SPEECHWRITING, WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF:

Archivist: kdb

Research Office Records

File Folder: Economic Speech Before a Joint Session of the Congress

Date: 1/24/97

4/28/81 · OA 13638

SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
from Kenneth L. Khachigian to the President, re attached copy of speech	4/25/81	P5 12/21/00
	from Kenneth L. Khachigian to the President, re	from Kenneth L. Khachigian to the President, re 4/25/81

#### **RESTRICTION CODES**

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
  P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
  P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information (a)(4) of the PRA).
  Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or
- between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(8) of
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

- Freedom of Information Act [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]
  F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
  F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the
- Release would violate a Federal statue [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(4) of the FOIA).

  F-8 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
- Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
- Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

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PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS April 28, 1981

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Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, distinguished Members of the Congress, honored guests, and fellow citizens.

S, 4.23-81, p.1 9pm con Rect Program 1-18-81 type p. 39

I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

P. P. 372,3-30-81 TYPE P. 75,46 IS, 4-23-81, p. 1 PM Reager ILL Address Congress DD 4-24-81, p. 1 Drint Session part First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring Government spending under control and reduce taxes. I would like to say a few words directly to those of you who are watching and listening tonight.

This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and, most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know.

You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

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The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

Sick societies don't produce men like the two who recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy who placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

Sick societies don't produce dedicated police officers like Tom Delahanty or able and devoted public servants like Jim Brady. Sick societies don't make people like us so proud to be Americans and so very proud of all of our citizens.

Now, let's talk about getting spending and inflation under control and cutting your taxes.

Mr. Speaker and Senator Baker, I want to thank you for your cooperation in helping to arrange this Joint Session of the Congress. I won't be speaking to you very long tonight, but I asked for this meeting because the urgency of our joint mission has not changed. Thanks to some very fine people, my health is much improved, but we cannot say the same for the health of our economy.

The fundamental nature of our economic mess has not changed.

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It has been six months since the election that charged all of us in this Government with the task of restoring our economy. But let us review where we have come in these six months.

Inflation, measured by the consumer price index, has continued at annual double-digit rates.

Mortgage interest rates have averaged 13 percent for the last six months, preventing 9 out of 10 people from buying new homes.

There are still Eight million people unemployed.

Productivity in these six months has continued to drop by a rate of \_\_\_\_ percent.

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There have been SIX thousand business failures in this period.

Six months is long enough. The American people now want us to act, and not in half measures. They demand -- and they have earned -- a full and comprehensive effort to clean up our economic mess.

That opportunity begins with the Federal budget. The budgetary actions taken by the Congress over the next few days will determine how we respond to the message of last November 4.

For the last few months, you and I have enjoyed a relationship based on extraordinary cooperation. We have communicated in a spirit of candor, openness and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision day nears, and as the

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House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in the same spirit.

The House will be voting on two different measures to deal with the economy. One is the measure offered by the House Budget Committee. The other is a bi partisan measure -- the Gramm-Latta substitute.

We embrace and fully support the Gramm-Latta measure -one which will achieve all the essential aims of controlling
Government spending, building a national defense second to
none, and guiding a growing economy.

We must state our opposition to the measure offered by the House Budget Committee.

It appears that we have two alternatives. However, there are, truly, no more alternatives left. The House Budget Committee measure quite simply falls far too short of the essential actions that we must take. For example:

- The House Budget Committee measure plans to spend \$141 billion more over the next three years than does the bi partisan substitute.
  - The House Budget Committee measure regrettably cuts nearly \$7 billion in essential defense budget authority follows required to restore America's national security.
- -- The House Budget Committee proposal does not provide enough tax relief to American taxpayers --

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EON RECY PROGROM

it would take from the people \$147 billion more or or or to than the proposal we have endorsed.

The House Budget Committee measure does not cut inflation as fast, will not sufficiently stimulate savings and investment, and assumes higher interest GE GE rates in 1982.

Let us cut through the fog for a moment. The answer to a government that's too big is to stop feeding its growth. ar ar The outrageous deficits of the past few years and the massive national debt which we accumulated are central ingredients to the Government's diet. Well, it's time to change the diet.

But, the option offered by the House Budget Committee only takes half steps. It will leave spending too high and taxes too high. It will cut the defense budget too much and not create the kind of economic growth we must have.

Tonight I renew my call for us to work as a team -- to join in cooperation so that we find answers which solve all of our economic problems and not just some.

The comprehensive program for economic recovery that I have outlined to you over the past few weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer we have left. Balancing the budget, reducing taxes, providing relief from overregulation, and working toward stable monetary growth are interwoven measures which will ensure that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future

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And we can do all those things if we but muster the will to do them.

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When I took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- to "We the People."

Those people -- neighbors and friends; shopkeepers and laborers; farmers and craftsmen -- do not have infinite patience. Some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress:

"The American people," he said, "are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled, it burns like a consuming flame."

Perhaps that kind of wrath will be deserved if our answer to these serious problems is to repeat the mistakes of the past. The old and comfortable way is to shave a little here and add a little there. Well, that's not acceptable any more.

The one sure way to continue the inflationary squeeze is to fall back into the predictable patterns of old economic practices.

Isn't it time that we tried something new?

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5,4-23-81, A.1

Just two weeks ago, I joined millions of my fellow

Americans in marveling at the magic historical moment that

John Young and Bob Crippen created in their spaceship Shuttle

Columbia.

The last manned effort was six years ago, and I remembered how, over the years, we had all come to expect technological precision of our men and machines. Each amazing achievement became commonplace, until the next new challenge was raised.

with the space shuttle, we tested our ingenuity once again -- moving beyond the accomplishments of the past into the promise and uncertainty of the future. Thus, we not only planned to send up a lad foot aircraft, I miles into space, but also intended to make it maneuverable and return it to earth -- landing tons of exotic metals delicately on the day lake bed.

The space shuttle raised our expectations once more.

It started us dreaming again. "The republic is a dream,"

wrote Carl Sandburg. "Nothing happens unless first a

dream."

That's what makes us Americans different. We always reach for a new spirit and aim at a higher goal. We're courageous and determined. We're unafraid and bold.

Tonight, I think this is what the American people expect of us once again. We're expected to take up our

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own great challenge -- to reach beyond the commonplace and not to fall short for lacking creativity.

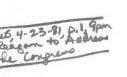
We have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before.

All we need to do is act.

All we need to have is faith.

All we need to begin with is a dream that we can do better than before.

Thank you and good night.



(Khachigian)

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS April 28, 1981

PROTOCOL, McCaffeel Innis, p. 6-7 Style p40 Pp, p.130,2-18-81

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, distinguished Members of the Congress, honored guests, and fellow citizens.

ws, 4.23-81, p.1, 9pm Econ RECY Acogeon 2-18-81 Style p.39 I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

PP, p. 872, 3-30-81 Stagle p. 75, 46 WS, 4-23-81, p.1, 9PM WP, 4-24-81, p.1 Jt Session set First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring Government spending under control and reduce tax rates. I would like to say a few words directly to those of you who are watching and listening tonight.

This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and, most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know.

You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

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The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

Sick societies don't produce men like the two who DE 95 recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't ac produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy who was or placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

Sick societies don't produce dedicated police officers ce a an like Tom Delahanty or able and devoted public servants like Jim Brady. Sick societies don't make people like us so proud to be Americans and so very proud of all of our citizens.

Now, let's talk about getting spending and inflation under control and cutting your tax rates.

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The fundamental nature of our economic mess has not changed.

It has been half a year since the election that charged all of us in this Government with the task of restoring our

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economy. But let us review where we have come in these six months.

Inflation over this period, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, has continued at a double-digit rate.

Mortgage interest rates have averaged percent for the last six months, preventing families across America from buying homes.

There are still almost 8 million people unemployed.

The average worker's hourly earnings, after adjusting for inflation, are lower today than they were six months ago.

There have been 6,000 business failures in this period.

Six months is long enough. The American people now want us to act, and not in half measures. They demand -- and they have earned -- a full and comprehensive effort to clean up our economic mess.

Because of the extent of our economy's sickness, we know that the cure will not come quickly, and that even with our package, progress will come in inches and feet, not miles. But to fail to act will delay even longer -- and more painfully -- the cure which must come.

That cure begins with the Federal budget. And the budgetary actions taken by the Congress over the next few days will determine how we respond to the message of last November 4.

For the last few months, you and I have enjoyed a relationship based on extraordinary cooperation. We have

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me un te paper -20 &1 Differences steven HBC proposel rd bipart sub. communicated in a spirit of candor, openness and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision day nears, and as the House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in the same spirit. The Senate Budget Committee has just today voted out a bill that is in all major respects consistent with the program we have proposed. Now we look forward to favorable action on the Senate floor. But the more immediate test involves the House of Representatives.

The House will soon be voting on two different measures to deal with the economy. One is the measure offered by the House Budget Committee. The other is a bipartisan measure — the Gramm-Latta substitute.

We embrace and fully support the Gramm-Latta measure -one which will achieve all the essential aims of controlling
Government spending and reducing the tax burden, building a
national defense second to none, and stimulating economic
growth and creating millions of new jobs.

We must state our opposition to the measure offered by the House Budget Committee.

It appears that we have two alternatives. However, there are, truly, no more alternatives left. The House Budget Committee measure quite simply falls far too short of the essential actions that we must take. For example, in the next three years:

-- The House Budget Committee measure projects spending \$141 billion more than does the bipartisan substitute.

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- -- The House Budget Committee measure regrettably cuts over \$14 billion in essential defense funding -- funding required to restore America's national security.
  - The House Budget Committee proposal does not provide enough, or the right kind of, tax relief to American taxpayers it would take from the people \$147 billion more than the proposal we have endorsed and would not provide the kinds of tax changes we need if taxpayers are to have adequate incentives for saving and working.
- -- The House Budget Committee measure will not cut inflation as fast, and will not sufficiently stimulate savings and investment.

Let us cut through the fog for a moment. The answer to a government that's too big is to stop feeding its growth. Government spending has been growing faster than the economy itself. The massive national debt which we accumulated is the result of the Government's rich spending diet. Well, it's time to change the diet and to change it in the right way.

But, the option offered by the House Budget Committee only takes half steps. It will leave spending too high and tax rates too high. It will cut the defense budget too much. And, by attempting to reduce the deficit through higher taxes, it will not create the kind of economic growth and the new jobs we must have.

PP, A BL, 2-18-81

ECONRECY PROGRAM
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3-18-51; EV82
3-10-31
FP, P. 30, 2-18-31
FLOW RECY PROGRAM
2-18-81, Sect III, p. 1
Style P. 107

Econ recy program P.12 2-18-81 Style p.36 Tonight I renew my call for us to work as a team -- to join in cooperation so that we find answers which will begin to solve all our economic problems and not just some.

The economic recovery package that I have outlined to you over the past few weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer we have left. Reducing the growth of spending, cutting marginal tax rates, providing relief from overregulation, and following a non-inflationary and predictable monetary policy are interwoven measures which will ensure that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future.

These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget -- something we believe we can achieve by 1984. The unacceptable alternative path to a balanced budget is to raise the tax burden higher, and the economy is already weakened by the present tax burden.

And we can do all those things if we but muster the will and commitment to do them.

When I took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- to "We the people."

Those people -- neighbors and friends; shopkeepers and laborers; farmers and craftsmen -- do not have infinite patience. Some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress:

"The American people," he said, "are slow to wrath, but when

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15,4-23-81 p.1,9pm Random Dict, p. 271 it to Earth -- landing 98 tons of exotic metals delicately on a remote dry lake bed.

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The Space Shuttle raised our expectations once more.

It started us dreaming again. "The republic is a dream," wrote Carl Sandburg. "Nothing happens unless first a dream."

That's what makes us Americans different. We always reach for a new spirit and aim at a higher goal. We're courageous and determined. We're unafraid and bold.

Tonight, I think this is what the American people expect of us once again. We're expected to take up our own great challenge -- to reach beyond the commonplace and not to fall short for lacking creativity.

We have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before.

All we need to begin with is a dream that we can do better than before.

All we need to have is faith.

All we need to do is act.

Thank you and good night.

15,4/23/81, p. 1,9 pm

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 24, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KENNETH L. KHACHIGIAN

SUBJECT:

Joint Session Speech

Here are materials for your speech before the Congress next Tuesday.

It reflects our conversation of last Friday as well as the comments of OMB, CEA, Treasury and Senior Staff.

I'll be here over the weekend should you want to review any changes -- or if you would like additional data.

All of us on the speechwriting staff -- researchers and secretaries -- want you to know we're very happy to be back in the business of sending you materials!

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS April 28, 1981

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, distinguished Members of the Congress, honored guests, and fellow citizens.

I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring Government spending under control and reduce tax rates. I would like to say a few words directly to those server who are watching and listening tonight.

This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and, most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know.

You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

Sick societies don't produce men like the two who recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy who placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

Sick societies don't produce dedicated police officers like Tom Delahanty or able and devoted public servants like Jim Brady. Sick societies don't make people like us so proud to be Americans and so very proud of all of our citizens.

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These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget -- something we believe we can achieve by 1984. The unacceptable alternative path to a balanced budget is to raise the tax burden higher, and the economy is already weakened by the present tax burden and could be destroyed if that burden is increased for much.

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great challenge — to reach beyond the commonplace and not

fall short for lacking creativity or courage.

We have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before.

As CARL SANDRURG SAID
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All we need to have is faith.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 25, 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KENNETH L. KHACHIGIAN

Here is a clean copy of your edited version of the Joint Session speech. I checked out your tax insert with Norm Ture, and he says the facts therein are correct.

A few other points:

- (1) There will be one more <u>limited</u> circulation of the speech on Monday -- just to make sure we've not overlooked something. That will enable us to make technical corrections.
- (2) Max Friedersdorf would like you to delete references to the "Gramm-Latta" bill and refer to it, instead, as the bipartisan substitute measure. The reason for this is that Gramm is being targeted by the House Democratic leadership, and using his name might put him in an uncomfortable position. And when the bill is submitted on the House floor, it will be done so by Del Latta, not Phil Gramm.
- (3) Also, per Max Friedersdorf's suggestion -- there is only one element now missing from this draft and that is a bouquet to the Congress. He rightfully points out that they have been very cooperative in many respects and that no legislation has ever moved this quickly up there. It would be very helpful to your cause to let them know quite specifically how much they have done to keep the ball rolling. You will note on the bottom of page three, I've marked an "insert A" at which I propose the following language:

"Because of this cooperation we have come a long distance in less than three months. I want to thank the readership of Congress for helping in setting a fair timetable for consideration of my recommendations. And committee chairmen on both sides of the aisle have called prompt and thorough hearings."

Then, the next sentence, beginning "We have also . . . " would start a new paragraph. Everything else would remain the same.

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### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 24, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KENNETH L. KHACHIGIAN

SUBJECT:

Joint Session Speech

Here are materials for your speech before the Congress next Tuesday.

It reflects our conversation of last Friday as well as the comments of OMB, CEA, Treasury and Senior Staff.

I'll be here over the weekend should you want to review any changes -- or if you would like additional data.

All of us on the speechwriting staff -- researchers and secretaries -- want you to know we're very happy to be back in the business of sending you materials!

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS April 28, 1981

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, distinguished Members of the Congress, honored guests, and fellow citizens.

I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring Government spending under control and reduce tax rates. I would like to say a few words directly to those who are watching and listening tonight.

This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and, most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know. You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

Sick societies don't produce men like the two who recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy who placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

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-18-81, p. 14
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I know the tax portion of our package is of concern to some of you. Let me make a few points I feel have been overlooked. First of all, it should be looked at as an integral part of the entire package, not something separate and apart from the budget reductions, the regulatory relief and the monetary restraints.

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Style p. B.

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We have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before.

As Carl Sandburg said, all we need to begin with is a dream that we can do better than before.

All we need to have is faith.

All we need to do is act, and that dream will come true.

When you allowed me to speak to you here in these chambers before I told you I wanted this program for economic recovery to be ours -- yours and mine. I think the Gramm-Latta bipartisan bill has achieved that purpose.

Thank you and good night.

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April 27, 1981 Fourth Draft

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PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS April 28, 1981

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, distinguished Members of the Congress, honored guests, and fellow citizens:

I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring Government spending under control and reduce tax rates. I would like to say a few words directly to all of you and to those who are watching and listening tonight.

This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and, most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know. You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

Sick societies don't produce men like the two who recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy who placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

Sick societies don't produce dedicated police officers like Tom Delahanty or able and devoted public servants like Jim Brady. Sick societies don't make people like us so proud to be Americans and so very proud of all of our citizens.

Now, let's talk about getting spending and inflation under control and cutting your tax rates.

Mr. Speaker and Senator Baker, I want to thank you for your cooperation in helping to arrange this Joint Session of the Congress. I won't be speaking to you very long tonight, but I asked for this meeting because the urgency of our joint mission has not changed.

Thanks to some very fine people, my health is much improved. I'd like to be able to say that with regard to the health of our economy. But the fundamental nature of our economic mess has not changed.

It has been half a year since the election that charged all of us in this Government with the task of restoring our economy. Where have we come in these 6 months?

Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, has continued at a double-digit rate.

Mortgage interest rates have averaged almost 15 percent for these 6 months, preventing families across America from buying homes.

There are still almost 8 million people unemployed.

The average worker's hourly earnings, after adjusting for inflation, are lower today than they were 6 months ago and there have been over 6,000 business failures.

Six months is long enough. The American people now want us to act, and not in half measures. They demand -- and they have earned -- a full and comprehensive effort to clean up our economic mess.

Because of the extent of our economy's sickness, we know that the cure will not come quickly, and that even with our package, progress will come in inches and feet, not miles. But to fail to act will delay even longer -- and more painfully -- the cure which must come.

That cure begins with the Federal budget. And the budgetary actions taken by the Congress over the next few days will determine how we respond to the message of last November 4.

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We have also communicated in a spirit of candor, openness and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision day nears, and as the House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in that same spirit, The Senate Budget Committee has just today voted out a bill that is in all major respects consistent with the program we have proposed. Now we look forward to favorable action on the Senate floor. But, an equally crucial test involves the House of Representatives.

The House will soon be veting on two different measures to deal with the economy. One is the measure offered by the House Budget Committee. The other is a bipartisan measure -- a substitute introduced by Congressmen Phil Gramm of Texas and Del Latta of Ohio.

On behalf of the Administration, let me say we embrace and fully support that bipartisan substitute. It will achieve all the essential aims of controlling Government spending and reducing the tax burden, building a national

defense second to none, and stimulating economic growth and creating millions of new jobs.

At the same time, however, I must state our opposition to the measure offered by the House Budget Committee.

It may appear that we have two alternatives. In reality, however, there are no more alternatives left. The Committee measure quite simply falls far too short of the essential actions that we must take. For example, in the next 3 years:

- -- The Committee measure projects spending \$141 billion more than does the bipartisan substitute.
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It does not provide enough, or the right kind of, tax relief to American taxpayers -- it would take from the people \$147 billion more than the proposal we have endorsed and would not provide the kinds of tax changes we need if taxpayers are to have adequate incentives for saving and working.

In short, the Committee measure will not cut inflation as fast, and will not sufficiently stimulate savings and investment.

Let us cut through the fog for a moment. The answer to a government that's too big is to stop feeding its growth. Government spending has been growing faster than the economy itself. The massive national debt which we accumulated is

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It adheres to the failed policy of trying to balance the budget on the taxpayer's back. It would increase tax payments by over a third -- adding up to a staggering quarter trillion dollars. Federal taxes would increase 12 percent each year. Taxpayers would be paying a larger share of their income to Government in 1984 than at present.

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In short, the Committee measure reflects an echo of the past rather than a benchmark for the future. High taxes and excess spending growth created our present economic mess; more of the same will not cure the hardship, anxiety and discouragement it has imposed on the American people.

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Our economic program relies on the vigorous interaction of people's savings that are invested so businesses can grow and produce more jobs. And business expansion in turn offers new opportunities and incentives for our working people to earn more money and increase their standard of living. Tax rate cuts are the golden thread which binds our people to this economic system. They cannot be left out.

Probably the most common misconception is that we are proposing to reduce Government revenues to less than what Government has been receiving. This is not true. Actually, the discussion has to do with how much of a tax increase should be imposed on the taxpayer in 1982. A gigantic tax increase has been built into the system. We are proposing nothing more than a reduction of that increase.

The people have a right to know that even with our plan they will be paying more in taxes but not as much more.

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It will take our full 3-year tax rate reduction just to hold the line on taxes, to provide tax reductions for individual taxpayers, and jobs for millions of our fellow citizens.

The option offered by the House Budget Committee will leave spending too high and tax rates too high. At the same time it cuts the defense budget too much. And, by attempting to reduce the deficit through higher taxes, it will not create the kind of strong economic growth and the new jobs we must have. Let us not overlook the fact that the small, independent business man or woman creates more than 80 percent of all the new jobs and employs more than half our work force. Our across-the-board cut in tax rates for a 3-year period will give them much of the incentive and promise of stability they need to go forward with expansion plans calling for additional employees.

Tonight I renew my call for us to work as a team -- to join in cooperation so that we find answers which will begin to solve all our economic problems and not just some.

The economic recovery package that I have outlined to you over the past few weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer we have left. Reducing the growth of spending, cutting marginal tax rates, providing relief from overregulation, and following a non-inflationary and predictable monetary policy are interwoven measures which will ensure

that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future.

These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget -- which we are committed to do by 1984. The unacceptable alternative path to a balanced budget is to raise the tax burden even higher, but our economy is already weakened by the present tax burden and could be destroyed if that burden is increased too much.

When I took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- "We the people." Those people -- neighbors and friends; shopkeepers and laborers; farmers and craftsmen -- do not have infinite patience.

Some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress: "The American people," he said, "are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled, it burns like a consuming flame."

Perhaps that kind of wrath will be deserved if our answer to these serious problems is to repeat the mistakes of the past. The old and comfortable way is to shave a little here and add a little there. Well, that's not acceptable any more. I think this great and historic Congress knows that that way is no longer acceptable.

The one sure way to continue the inflationary spiral is to fall back into the predictable patterns of old economic practices.

Isn't it time that we tried something new?

When you allowed me to speak to you here in these Chambers before, I told you I wanted this program for economic recovery to be ours -- yours and mine. I think the bipartisan substitute bill has achieved that purpose. It moves us toward restored economic vitality.

Just two weeks ago, I joined millions of my fellow

Americans in marveling at the magic historical moment that

John Young and Bob Crippen created in their Space Shuttle

Columbia.

The last manned effort was almost 6 years ago, and I remembered how, over the years, we had all come to expect technological precision of our men and machines. Each amazing achievement became commonplace, until the next new challenge was raised.

With the Space Shuttle, we tested our ingenuity once again -- moving beyond the accomplishments of the past into the promise and uncertainty of the future. Thus, we not only planned to send up a 122-foot aircraft, 170 miles into space, but also intended to make it maneuverable and return it to Earth -- landing 98 tons of exotic metals delicately on a remote dry lake bed.

The Space Shuttle did more than prove our technological abilities, it raised our expectations once more; it started us dreaming again. "The republic is a dream," wrote Carl Sandburg. "Nothing happens unless first a dream."

That's what makes us Americans different. We have always reached for a new spirit and aimed at a higher goal. We've been courageous and determined, unafraid and bold. Who among us wants to be first to say we no longer have those qualities? That we must limp along doing the same things that have brought us our present misery. I believe the people you and I represent are ready to chart a new course. They look to us to meet the great challenge -- to reach beyond the commonplace and not fall short for lack of creativity or courage. Someone has said: "He who would have nothing to do with thorns must never attempt to gather flowers."

We have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before.

As Carl Sandburg said, all we need to begin with is a dream that we can do better than before.

All we need to have is faith,

All we need to do is act, (and that dream will come true.

Thank you and good night.

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It does not offer a real alternative despite its packaging.

The Committee measures project a continuation of excessive spending growth -- \$184 billion em nearly 9 percent annually over the next three years. That's a recipe with a sure result: high taxes, more deficits and continued stagflation.

It ignores the mandate of last November for new priorities: while increasing domestic spending by \$86 billion over the next three years, it reduces vitally needed funding authority for defense by \$14 billion.

It adheres to the failed policy of trying to balance the budget on the taxpayer's back. Despite rhetoric about tax eut, here are the facts by over a the

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The Committee resolution would increase tax payments a staggering quarter trillion dollars Nover the next three years. Federal taxes would increase 12 percent each year. Taxpayers would be paying a larger share of their income to government in 1984 than at present.

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April 27, 1981 Fourth Draft

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS April 28, 1981

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Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, distinguished Members of the Congress, honored guests, and fellow citizens.

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I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

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This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and, most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know. You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

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The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

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We have also communicated in a spirit of candor, openness and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision ces are o day nears, and as the House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in that same spirit. The Senate Budget Committee has just today voted out a bill that is in all major respects consistent with the program 05 15 4 we have proposed. Now we look forward to favorable action 4 on the Senate floor. But, an equally crucial test involves 18 B 8 the House of Representatives.

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It will take our full 3-year tax rate reduction just to hold the line on taxes, to provide tax reductions for individual taxpayers, and jobs for millions of our fellow citizens.

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Tonight I renew my call for us to work as a team -- to join in cooperation so that we find answers which will begin to solve all our economic problems and not just some.

The economic recovery package that I have outlined to you over the past few weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer we have left. Reducing the growth of spending, cutting marginal tax rates, providing relief from overregulation, and following a non-inflationary and predictable monetary policy are interwoven measures which will ensure

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that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future.

These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget -- which we are committed to do by 1984. The unacceptable alternative path to a balanced budget is to raise the tax burden even higher, but our economy is already weakened by the present tax burden and could be destroyed if that burden is increased too much.

When I took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- "We the people." Those people -- neighbors and friends; shopkeepers and laborers; farmers and craftsmen -- do not have infinite patience.

Some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress: "The American people," he said, "are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled, it burns like a consuming flame."

Perhaps that kind of wrath will be deserved if our answer to these serious problems is to repeat the mistakes of the past. The old and comfortable way is to shave a little here and add a little there. Well, that's not acceptable any more. I think this great and historic Congress knows that that way is no longer acceptable.

The one sure way to continue the inflationary spiral is to fall back into the predictable patterns of old economic practices.

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The last manned effort was almost 6 years ago, and I remembered how, over the years, we had all come to expect technological precision of our men and machines. Each amazing achievement became commonplace, until the next new challenge was raised.

With the Space Shuttle, we tested our ingenuity once again -- moving beyond the accomplishments of the past into the promise and uncertainty of the future. Thus, we not only planned to send up a 122-foot aircraft, 170 miles into space, but also intended to make it maneuverable and return it to Earth -- landing 98 tons of exotic metals delicately on a remote dry lake bed.

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That's what makes us Americans different. We have always reached for a new spirit and aimed at a higher goal. We've been courageous and determined, unafraid and bold. Who among us wants to be first to say we no longer have those qualities? That we must limp along doing the same things that have brought us our present misery. I believe the people you and I represent are ready to chart a new course. They look to us to meet the great challenge -- to reach beyond the commonplace and not fall short for lack of creativity or courage. Someone has said: He who would have nothing to do with thorns must never attempt to gather flowers.

We have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before.

As Carl Sandburg said, all we need to begin with is a dream that we can do better than before.

All we need to have is faith.

All we need to do is act, and that dream will come true.

Thank you and good night.

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## THE WHITE HOUSE

## Office of the Press Secretary

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL 9:00 pm EDT

APRIL 28, 1981

## TEXT OF THE ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS

I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring Government spending under control and reduce tax rates. I would like to say a few words directly to all of you and to those who are watching and listening tonight.

This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know. You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

Sick societies don't produce men like the two who recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy who placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

Sick societies don't produce dedicated police officers like Tom Delahanty or able and devoted public servants like Jim Brady. Sick societies don't make people like us so proud to be Americans and so very proud of all of our citizens.

Now, let's talk about getting spending and inflation under control and cutting your tax rates.

Mr. Speaker and Senator Baker, I want to thank you for your cooperation in helping to arrange this Joint Session of the Congress. I won't be speaking to you very long tonight, but I asked for this meeting because the urgency of our joint mission has not changed.

Thanks to some very fine people, my health is much improved. I'd like to be able to say that with regard to the health of our economy. But the fundamental nature of our economic mess has not changed.

It has been half a year since the election that charged all of us in this Government with the task of restoring our economy. Where have we come in these 6 months?

Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, has continued at a double-digit rate.

Mortgage interest rates have averaged almost 15 percent for these 6 months, preventing families across America from buying homes.

There are still almost 8 million people unemployed.

The average worker's hourly earnings, after adjusting for inflation, are lower today than they were 6 months ago and there have been over 6,000 business failures.

Six months is long enough. The American people now want us to act, and not in half measures. They demand -- and they have earned -- a full and comprehensive effort to clean up our economic mess.

Because of the extent of our economy's sickness, we know that the cure will not come quickly, and that even with our package, progress will come in inches and feet, not miles. But to fail to act will delay even longer -- and more painfully -- the cure which must come.

That cure begins with the Federal budget. And the budgetary actions taken by the Congress over the next few days will determine how we respond to the message of last November 4.

That message was very simple. Our Government is too big and it spends too much.

For the last few months, you and I have enjoyed a relationship based on extraordinary cooperation. Because of this cooperation we have come a long distance in less than 3 months. I want to thank the leadership of the Congress for helping in setting a fair timetable for consideration of my recommendations. And committee chairmen on both sides of the aisle have called prompt and thorough hearings.

We have also communicated in a spirit of candor, openness, and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision day nears, and as the House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in that same spirit.

The House will soon be choosing between two different measures to deal with the economy. One is the measure offered by the House Budget Committee. The other is a bipartisan measure -- a substitute introduced by Congressmen Phil Gramm of Texas and Del Latta of Ohio.

On behalf of the Administration, let me say we embrace and fully support that bipartisan substitute. It will achieve all the essential aims of controlling Government spending and reducing the tax burden, building a national defense second to none, and stimulating economic growth and creating millions of new jobs.

At the same time, however, I must state our opposition to the measure offered by the House Budget Committee.

It may appear that we have two alternatives. In reality, however, there are no more alternatives left. The Committee measure quite simply falls far too short of the essential actions that we must take. For example, in the next three years:

- -- The Committee measure projects spending \$141 billion more than does the bipartisan substitute.
- -- It regrettably cuts over \$14 billion in essential defense funding -- funding required to restore America's national security.

- -- It adheres to the failed policy of trying to balance the budget on the taxpayer's back. It would increase tax payments by over a third -- adding up to a staggering quarter trillion dollars. Federal taxes would increase 12 percent each year. Taxpayers would be paying a larger share of their income to Government in 1984 than at present.
- -- In short, the Committee measure reflects an echo of the past rather than a benchmark for the future. High taxes and excess spending growth created our present economic mess; more of the same will not cure the hardship, anxiety, and discouragement it has imposed on the American people.

Let us cut through the fog for a moment. The answer to a government that's too big is to stop feeding its growth. Government spending has been growing faster than the economy itself. The massive national debt which we accumulated is the result of the Government's rich spending diet. Well, it's time to change the diet and to change it in the right way.

I know the tax portion of our package is of concern to some of you. Let me make a few points I feel have been overlooked. First of all, it should be looked at as an integral part of the entire package, not something separate and apart from the budget reductions, the regulatory relief, and the monetary restraints.

Probably the most common misconception is that we are proposing to reduce Government revenues to less than what Government has been receiving. This is not true. Actually, the discussion has to do with how much of a tax increase should be imposed on the taxpayer in 1982. A gigantic tax increase has been built into the system. We are proposing nothing more than a reduction of that increase.

The people have a right to know that even with our plan they will be paying more in taxes, but not as much more.

The option offered by the House Budget Committee will leave spending too high and tax rates too high. At the same time it cuts the defense budget too much. And, by attempting to reduce the deficit through higher taxes, it will not create the kind of strong economic growth and the new jobs we must have. Let us not overlook the fact that the small, independent business man or woman creates more than 80 percent of all the new jobs and employs more than half our work force. Our across-the-board cut in tax rates for a 3-year period will give them much of the incentive and promise of stability they need to go forward with expansion plans calling for additional employees.

Tonight I renew my call for us to work as a team -- to join in cooperation so that we find answers which will begin to solve all our economic problems and not just some.

The economic recovery package that I have outlined to you over the past few weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer we have left. Reducing the growth of spending, cutting marginal tax rates, providing relief from overregulation, and following a non-inflationary and predictable monetary policy are interwoven measures which will ensure that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future.

These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget -- which we are committed to do by 1984.

When took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- "We the people." Those people -- neighbors and friends, shopkeepers and laborers, farmers and craftsmen -- do not have infinite patience. Some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress: "The American people," he said, "are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled, it burns like a consuming flame."

Perhaps that kind of wrath will be deserved if our answer to these serious problems is to repeat the mistakes of the past. The old and comfortable way is to shave a little here and add a little there. Well, that's not acceptable any more. I think this great and historic Congress knows that that way is no longer acceptable.

The one sure way to continue the inflationary spiral is to fall back into the predictable patterns of old economic practices.

In't it time that we tried something new?

When you allowed me to speak to you here in these Chambers before, I told you I wanted this program for economic recovery to be ours -- yours and mine. I think the bipartisan substitute bill has achieved that purpose. It moves us toward restored economic vitality.

Just two weeks ago, I joined millions of my fellow Americans in marveling at the magic historical moment that John Young and Bob Crippen created in their Space Shuttle Columbia.

The last manned effort was almost six years ago, and I remembered how, over the years, we had all come to expect technological precision of our men and machines. Each amazing achievement became commonplace, until the next new challenge was raised.

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As Carl Sandburg said, all we need to begin with is a dream that we ar do better than before.

all we need to have is faith, and that dream will come true.

all we need to do is act, and the time for action is now.

Amank you and good night.

research

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 23, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE VICE PRESIDENT EDWIN MEESE III DONALD T. REGAN DAVID STOCKMAN JAMES A. BAKER III MICHAEL K. DEAVER MURRAY WEIDENBAUM RICHARD ALLEN MARTIN ANDERSON ELIZABETH H. DOLE MAX FRIEDERSDORF DAVID GERGEN EDWIN L. HARPER LYN NOFZICER LARRY SPEAKES RICHARD S. WILLIAMSON RICHARD G. DARMAN CRAIG FULLER

FROM:

KENNETH L. KHACHIGIAN

SUBJECT:

President Reagan's Address to a Joint Session of Congress

Attached herewith a draft of the President's remarks before a Joint Session on the economic program. I would appreciate receiving your written comments by 11:00 a.m., Friday, April 24, 1981. Please send these comments to me in Room 100, Old Executive Office Building. I would appreciate your not phoning-in these comments.

Thank you.

### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/24/81

TO: STEPHEN STUDDERT \*\*\*

FROM: GREGORY J. NEWELL

SUBJ: APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY.

PLEASE IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING AND SUBMIT BRIEFING PAPER AND REMARKS TO RICHARD DARMAN BY 3:00 P.M. OF THE PRECEDING DAY.

MEETING: Address Joint Session of the Congress.

DATE: Tuesday, April 28

TIME: 9:00 pm DURATION:

LOCATION: The Capitol

REMARKS REQUIRED: Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE: Coordinate with Press Office

FIRST LADY PARTICIPATION: Yes

\*\*\*\*\* Coordinate with Max Friedersdorf.

cc: J. Brady

M. Brandon

J. Canzeri

R. Darman

M. Deaver

E. Dole

H. Donaldson

M. Evans

D. Fischer

J. Fitzgerald

M. Friedersdorf

C. Fuller

D. Gergen

C. Gerrard

K. Khachigian

P. McCoy

L. Speakes

S. Studdert

R. Williamson

WHCA Audio/Visual, Operations

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

### Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 23, 1981

The Consumer Price Index for March was released this morning showing prices rising between February and March at a relatively modest annual rate of 7.5%. However, the March level is up 10.5% over a year earlier. Murray Weidenbaum, Chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers had the following response to these figures:

"The CPI report for March is good news, and I hope that it can be repeated in the months ahead. But we can't be satisfied with an inflation rate of 10-1/2 percent over the past year. The basic conditions which have led to the high underlying rate of inflation and poor productivity performance of the past several years remain with us, and there is little evidence they can be corrected by merely continuing to follow the policies of the past."

###



First Lady Nancy Reagan beams as her husband receives a standing ovation from Congress as he arrives for his speech. Beside her is Mrs. Howard Baker, wife of the Senate majority leader.

ROCKVILLE CENTRE: N.Y. (UPI) -- EIGHT-YEAR-OLD PETER SWEENEY SLEPT AS HIS GET WELL LETTER WAS READ ALOUD ON NATIONAL TELEVISION BY PRESIDENT REAGAN. IT BROUGHT DOWN THE HOUSE.

"DEAR MR. PRESIDENT, I HOPE YOU GET WELL QUICK -- OR YOU MIGHT HAVE TO MAKE A SPEECH IN YOUR PAJAMAS," HE WROTE IN THE LETTER READ BY REAGAN TO A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS LAST NIGHT.

IT BROUGHT THUNDEROUS LAUGHTER AND APPLAUSE.

BUT BACK AT THE SECOND GRADER'S HOME, NO ONE KNEW WHAT HAPPENED UNTIL TELEPHONES BEGAN RINGING.

PETER SWEENEY SR., A POLICEMAN, TOLD UPI THE WHOLE FAMILY MISSED THE READING. SWEENEY WAS READING A BOOK TO HIS SON EDWARD, 3. AND IT WAS WELL PAST PETER'S BEDTIME.

SHEENEY FELT IF PETER WERE AWAKENED AND TOLD ABOUT HIS BIG MOMENT, "HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO SLEEP."

UPI 04-29-81 09:27 AED

# **Democrats** Offer Own Cuts List and

78 - By Helen Dewar Washington Post Staff Writer

House Democratic leaders yesterday proposed an alternative to President Reagan's economic program that embraces three-fourths of Reagan's proposed spending cuts but keeps at least some money flowing into numerous Democratic-authored social programs that Reagan had marked for extinc-

David A. Stockman, Reagan's budget director, promptly labeled it "unacceptable," and House Republicans, angling for support from Democratic conservatives, prepared to go to the

mat for their president.

The Democratic program anticipates less of a tax cut than Reagan wants and, as a result, a smaller deficit than Reagan projects - holding out the hope of a balanced budget next year, a year before Reagan has said it would be possible under his program.

It proposes to restore more than \$7 billion of the money that Reagan would cut next year from social programs, rescuing agencies like the Legal Services Corporation and Economic Development Administration from the bureaucratic graveyard and adding at least a little more money for everything from the arts to veterans' bene-

Education, nutrition, job training and social services would be among the major gainers. The Democrats also would not "cap" Medicaid for the poor.

Money for social spending would be recouped in part from the huge increase in defense spending that was recommended by Reagan. The Demo-

See CUTS, A5, Col. 1

# House Democrats Offer Alternative to Reagan's Proposed Budget Cuts

Reagan	Jones recommendation	Oifference
Outlays	713.50 688.90 24.60	-4.30 +21.50 -25.85
National defense	189.75 11.00	4.35
General science space and technology	7.05 6,70	+0.05 2.80
National resources and environment 12.70 Agriculture 5.15* Commerce and	12.35 5,10	-0.35 -0.05
housing credit	4.30	+0.05 +0.40
development:	9.50	+2.80
Health	74.45	+0.65
Income security: 243.85	247.55	1+3.70
and services	23.45	-0.15
Administration of justice	4.55	+0.20
General purpose	174	100
fiscal assistance:	6.20	-0.25 2.90
Allowances: 1.70	0.70	,-1.00
Und tributed offsetting	-34.60	-0.40

ALL FIGURES, BILLIONS OF DOLLARS, OUTLAYS, FISCAL '82

CUTS, From A1

cratic proposal would cut \$4.3 billion from military outlays but still leave the Pentagon with a 21 percent increase in spending authority next year. The Democrats also anticipate \$4.8 billion in savings from greater governmental efficiency and \$2.8 billion less in debt payments because of the smaller deficit.

Using economic and spending assumptions different from those the administration used. the Democrats figure their spending program for fiscal 1982 will cost \$4.3 billion less than Reagan's: \$713,5 billion rather than \$717.8 billion. Reagan had calculated his budget at \$695 billion, but the Democrats said this was based on too optimistic a view of the econo-

Largely because their tax cut would cost \$38 billion in contrast to the \$54.6 billion price tag they put on Reagan's, the Democrats calculate their deficit at \$24.6 billion contrasted with \$54.6 billion for the Reagan deficit. Reagan calculates his deficit at \$45 a contract

billion.

The program — a politically fine-tuned document aimed at attracting conservatives with a slimmed-down deficit while nailing down liberals with more money for social programs - was announced by House Budget Committee Chairman James R. Jones (D-Okla.) and hailed as a "fairness package" by House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., (D-Mass.).

But it drew quick fire from the ranking Republican on the Budget Committee, Rep. Delbert Latta (R-Ohio), a down-the-line supporter of the Reagan program. It is a "hightax budget," protested Latta, complaining also that it would "dismantle" Reagan's economic program.

Jones' proposal represents the Democrats' best - and probably only - shot at modifying Reagan's budget. The Republicancontrolled Senate virtually rubber-stamped Reagan's plan last week, brushing aside all Demogratic efforts to restore funds that Reagan would cut. While the House is still

under Democratic control, it has a bipartisan right-of-center majority, with Democratic conservatives holding the balance of power.

Budget Committee member Leon E. Panetta (D-Calif.) said he expects that all Democrats on the committee with the "possible exception" of conservative Rep. Phil Gramm (D-Tex.) will go along with the Jones alternative, which would ensure its success in the heavily Democratic committee. But Panetta was less sure about the House floor, programs that Reagan would consolidate into saying it depended on the degree of active block grants, they proposed less of a cutback support by Democratic conservatives. And Gramm, a leader among the conservative Democrats, said later he will oppose the Jones alternative unless it is changed.

Bowing to the popularity of Reagan's budget-cutting program in Congress, Jones swallowed many of Reagan's budget cuts whole, ranging from proposed savings of \$3.6 billion from ending the large public service jobs program to \$50 million in savings from eliminating the Solar Energy and Conservation Bank. The \$122-a-month minimum Social Security payment would be ended for all new recipients in 1982 and for everyone in 1983, as would one of two cost-of-living increases received by federal retirees every year in their pensions. The Democrats would reduce water-project funding even more than the administration wants.

But for most programs that Reagan would scrap or slash heavily the Democrats proposed at least a little more money, in some cases just enough to keep the programs alive.

They would save the Legal Services Corporation and the Economic Development Administration but at reduced spending levels. They would reject the cap on Medicaid payments to states, which Reagan proposed in order to save \$1 billion.

Among other things, they would add \$1.1 billion for child nutrition, \$650 million for food stamps, \$850 million for low income fuel assistance, \$300 million for veterans' health care, \$150 million for preventive medical care, \$450 million for job training, \$150

million for trade adjustment assistance, \$600 million for social services, \$300 million for coal miners' black lung benefits (offset by increased charges for mine operators), \$300 million for Conrail, \$650 million for educational programs and college loans and \$200 million for Amtrak. They would put back 75,000 of the 85,000 units of subsidized housing that Reagan proposed to cut.

For the education, health and social service in spending - about 10 percent instead of ·20 to 25 percent, according to O'Neill.

. In some cases, the Democrats proposed more cuts than Reagan did. For instance, they proposed funding the Strategic Petroleum Reserve at a level of \$1.5 billion, less than half the \$3.9 billion that Reagan proposed. The Senate had cut the reserve's to finance restorations of some social welfare funding by \$3 billion. The House Democrats also proposed to cut \$1.8 billion by eliminating the July 5,3 percent pay raise for the military. They would cut revenue sharing by \$100 million, double Reagan's proposed savings of \$100 million from user charges for pleasure boats and plan for \$200 million in sayings from lower Medicare hospital costs.

The House Budget Committee intends to complete action on the proposal this week. and House floor action is expected late this month. House-Senate differences will be ironed out in conference. Then the two houses will still have to act on scores of bills carrying out the budget.

Stockman, Reagan's budget director, called a news conference late yesterday to challenge many of Jones' numbers. Stockman called the Jones budget "a very artful package," but concluded that it would be "unacceptable" to the Reagan administration.

Stockman said three aspects of the Jones budget were particularly "objectionable": the cuts it proposes in defense spending, which Stockman said would reduce actual readiness: the delay and dilution Jones implicitly proposed for tax cuts, and "questionable" savings

Stockman said some of the savings Jones proposes to make would never materialize. He also opposed any restoration of the cuts Reagan has proposed in social welfare programs, saying any new savings that are found should be applied to reducing the deficit fur-

### Tiger Victim: 'How Is That Kitty Cat Who Bit Me?'

MARYVILLE, Tenn., April 6 (UPI) - A five-year-old boy who was mauled by a Bengal tiger named "Lillie" at a crowded flea market said, "Jesus must have been watching over me," his mother says.

Joseph Anthony Vaughn underwent surgery Saturday at University of Tennessee hospital for what were called "serious" bites to the head and neck. He was reported in fair condition.

"The tiger just cut loose and attacked the little boy," said Blount County Sheriff L.B. Sutton. It took six people including the boy's father - to pry the 10-month-old tiger's jaws apart and pull the animal away.

The boy's mother said the boy was in good spirits. "The first thing he asked after he came out of surgery was, 'How is that kitty cat who bit me?" she said.

The man who was walking the 200pound tiger, Gerald Cox, 29, of Rochelle, Ill., was charged Saturday night with aggravated assault. Sutton said the tiger was part of a carnival at the flea market.

The Washington Post

Cop-Como Buly Lift ON BUDGET BY GROUP OF HOUSE DEMOCRATS

GOAL IS TO DIVIDE OPPOSITION NYT. 4/22/81 President, in Discussion on Radio, Says He's 'Feeling Great and Getting Along Just Fine'

### By STEVEN R. WEISMAN Special to The New York Th

WASHINGTON, April 21 - President Reagan, in a move aimed at dividing Democrats in Congress on the budget issue, today embraced a \$689 billion spending program for next fiscal year that is being advanced by conservative Democrats in the House of Representa-

Although some Administration offi-cials earlier supported the conservative Democrats' alternative to the President's own plan, Mr. Reagan had made no comment on it until today. His official endorsement, in fact, came to light by accident, when Mr. Reagan became a sur-prise participant in a radio program in

Beaver Falls, Pa.

The President has been spending this week making telephone calls to key Democrats in Congress and this morning attempted to reach Representative Eugene V. Atkinson, a Pennsylvania Democrat. Mr. Atkinson, who at the time was appearing on a call-in program on station WBVP in Beaver Falls, returned the President's call, then persuaded him to go on the air.

### 'Getting Along Just Fine

"This was a surprise," Mr. Reagan said of his suddenly joining the program. He then praised Mr. Atkinson, saying, "He's been most supportive, which proves that Democrats and Republicans can get along on things that are good for the country.

Mr. Reagan also assured his listeners that he was "feeling great and getting along just fine."

The President's words, spoken in vigorous fashion, were the first to be heard by the public since Mr. Reagan was shot in the chest in an assassination attempt March 30. He also used the occasion to express "a thank you for all the support and help that the people have put in, particularly these last three weeks and one day."

### An Appeal to the 'Swing' Votes

As for the original purpose of Mr. Rea-gan's call, Mr. Atkinson said on the air that the alternative economic package put forward in the House by conservative Democrats had been "suggested as a compromise" and he said he would in-deed support it.

deed support it. "Oh, well, I think that's just great," Mr. Reagan replied, a reaction that White House officials said reflected an

The Pennsylvania Democrat thus became a symbol of the President's emerg-ing strategy with Congress, which is to ing strategy with Congress, which is to appeal mainly to a group of about 40 conservative Democrats who are seen as the "swing" votes for one of two econor packages that will be considered 9

### REAGAN BACKS PLAN BY GROUP IN HOUSE

Continued From Page Al

House floor after the members return from their Easter recess next week.

The President's package consists of \$695 billion in spending next year and a three-year cut in personal income taxes. The \$715 billion package that was approved before the Easter recess by the Democratic-controlled House Budget Committee contains only a one-year tax cut and less military spending and more spending on social programs than proposed by the Administration.

A separate \$689 billion package was defeated in the committee. But its backers, a group of Republicans and conservtive Democrats led by Representatives Phil Gramm, a Texas Democrat, and Delbert Latta, an Ohio Republican, hope to

bring it to the House floor next week.

Under the debate restrictions imposed by the Rules Committee, Mr. Reagan's original package is not to be considered on the floor. Therefore the Gramm-Latta resolution became the Reagan Adminis-tration's best vehicle for getting passed in the House something that was close to its proposal.

its proposal.

Another part of Mr. Reagan's strategy was apparent today when seven Republican Governors and one conservative Democratic Governor met with the President at the White House and then appeared in the briefing room to call for support for the President's efforts.

"These Governors all represent areas with a high number of 'swing' members of Congress," a White House official said, explaining that the Governors would now telephone the Congressmen themselves

telephone the Congressmen themselves to lobby for the Gramm-Latta package.
Gov. William Clements of Texas, a Republican, was blunt when asked how he was going to persuade the members to support Mr. Reagan.

### A Little Arm-Twisting

"I'm going to twist their arm," he said, arousing laughter in agreement from the other Governors, Fob James of Alabama, the lone Democrat, and David C. Treen of Louisiana, Dick Thornburgh of Pennsylvania, James A. Rhodes of Ohio, Robert of Indiana Pierre S. du Port the of D. Orr of Indiana, Pierre S. du Pont 4th of Delaware and Frank D. White of Arkan-

The differences between the conserva-

The differences between the conservative Democrats' proposal and Mr. Reagan's own original proposal are considered minor by the White House.

"We're not compromising," one official said. "This is a bipartisan package that incorporates our cuts, and it is the best vehicle for us in the House."

Nevertheless, the package contains some provisions that have been questioned by David A. Stockman, director of the Office of Management and Budget.

For example, it proposes \$6.1 billion in savings that Mr. Stockman has said were unrealistic. These include paying for the stockniling of oil by borrowing instead of

stockpiling of oil by borrowing instead of direct expenditure, and presuming \$1 billion in collections from oil companies for past overcharges to consumers.

It also contains about \$1 billion in additional spending that Mr. Reagan had wanted to cut back, including money for veterans, economic development and veterans, economic vocational education.

vocational education.

Representative James R. Jones, an Oklahoma Democrat who is chairman of the House Budget Committee, has been trying to win support for his own pro-posal, which would add \$12 billion in spending to Mr. Reagan's original plan.

Mr. Jones has found that many conservative Democrats want more spending for the military. On the other side, however, liberal Democrats have said they would oppose Mr. Jones's measure if it increased military spending.

### THE WHITE HOUSE

### Office of the Press Secretary

·For Immediate Release

April 28, 1981

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT TO A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

The U.S. Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.

9:05 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: You wouldn't want to talk me into an encore, would you? (Laughter.)

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, distinguished Members of the Congress, honored guests and fellow citizens, I have no words to express my appreciation for that greeting. (Applause.)

I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it's essential that the Congress approve this package, which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our economy and our industrial machine.

First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring government spending under control and reduce tax rates. I would like to say a few words directly to all of you and to those who are watching and listening tonight, because this is the only way I know to express to all of you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages and flowers and most of all your prayers, not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know. You have given us a memory that we'll treasure forever. And you've provided an answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

As a matter of fact, as evidence of that I have a letter with me. The letter came from Peter Sweeney. He's in the second grade in the Riverside School in Rockville Centre, and he said, "I hope you get well quick or you might have to make a speech in your pajamas." (Laughter. Applause.)

He added a postscript. "P.S. If you have to make a speech in your pajamas, I warned you." (Laughter.)

Well, sick societies don't produce men like the two who recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy, who -- (applause) --

placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

Sick societies don't produce dedicated police officers . like Tom Delahanty -- (applause) -- or able and devoted public servants like Jim Brady -- (applause.) Sick societies don't make people like us so proud to be Americans and so very proud of our fellow citizens.

Now, let's talk about getting spending and inflation under control and cutting your tax rates. Mr. Speaker and Senator Baker, I want to thank you for your cooperation in helping to arrange this Joint Session of the Congress. I won't be speaking to you very long tonight, but I asked for this meeting because the urgency of our joint mission has not changed.

Thanks to some very fine people, my health is much improved. I'd like to be able to say that with regard to the health of the economy.

It's been half a year since the election that charged all of us in this government with the task of restoring our economy. Where have we come in this six months? Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, has continued at a double-digit rate. Mortgage interest rates have averaged almost 15 percent for these six months, preventing families across America from buying homes. There are still almost eight million unemployed. The average worker's hourly earnings after adjusting for inflation are lower today than they were six months ago and there have been over six thousand business failures. Six months is long enough. The American people now want us to act and not in half-measures. They demand -- and they've earned a full and comprehensive effort to clean up our economic mess. Because of the extent of our economy's sickness, we know that the cure will not come quickly and that even with our package, progress will come in inches and feet, not in miles. But to fail to act will delay even longer, and more painfully, the cure which must come. And that cure begins with the federal budget. And the budgetary actions taken by the Congress over the next few days will determine how we respond to the message of last November 4th. That message was very simple. Our government is too big and it spends too much. (Applause.)

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Let us cut through the fog for a moment. The answer to a government that's too big is to stop feeding its growth. Government spending has been growing faster than the economy itself. The massive national debt which we accumulated is the result of the government's high spending diet. Well, it's time to change the diet and to change it in the right way. (Applause.)

I know the tax portion of our package is of concern to some of you. Let me make a few points that I feel have been overlooked. First of all, it should be looked at as an integral part of the entire package, not something separate and apart from the budget reductions, the regulatory relief, and the monetary restraints. Probably the most common misconception is that we are proposing to reduce government revenues to less than what the government has been receiving. This is not true. Actually, the discussion has to do with how much of a tax increase should be imposed on the taxpayer.

Now, I know that over the recess in some informal polling some of your constituents have been asked which they'd rather have, a balanced budget or a tax cut, and with the common sense that characterizes the people of this country, the answer, of course, has been, "a balanced budget." But may I suggest, with no inference that there was wrong intent on the part of those who asked the question, the question was inappropriate for the situation. Our choice is not between a balanced budget and a tax cut. Properly asked, the question is, "Do you want a great big raise in your taxes this coming year or, at the worst, a very little increase with the prospect of tax reduction and a balanced budget down the road a ways?" With the common sense that the people have already shown, I'm sure we all know what the answer to that question would be.

A gigantic tax increase has been built into the system. We propose nothing more than a reduction of that increase. The people have a right to know that even with our plan they will be paying more in taxes, but not as much more as they will without it. (Applause.)

The option, I believe, offered by the House Budget Committee, will leave spending too high and tax rates too high. At the same time, I think it cuts the defense budget too much, and by attempting to reduce the deficit through higher taxes it will not create the kind of strong economic growth and the new jobs that we must have.

Let us not overlook the fact that the small independent businessman or woman creates more than 80 percent of all the new jobs and employs more than half of our total work force. Our across-the-board cut in tax rates for a three-year period will give them much of the incentive and promise of stability they need to go forward with expansion plans calling for additional employees.

For the last few months, you and I have enjoyed a relationship based on extraordinary cooperation. Because of this cooperation we've come a long distance in less than three months. I want to thank the leadership of the Congress for helping in setting a fair timetable for consideration of our recommendations. And committee chairmen on both sides of the aisle have called prompt and thorough hearings.

We have also communicated in a spirit of candor, openness, and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision day nears, and as the House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in that same spirit.

The Senate Budget Committee, under the leadership of Pete Domenici, has just today voted out a budget resolution supported by Democrats and Republicans alike that is in all major respects consistent with the program that we have proposed. (Applause.)

Now, we look forward at favorable action on the Senate floor but an actually crucial test involves the House of Representatives. The House will soon be choosing between two different versions or measures to deal with the economy. One is the measure offered by the House Budget Committee. The other is a bipartisan measure -- a substitute introduced by Congressmen Phil Gramm of Texas and Del Latta of Ohio.

On behalf of the administration, let me say that we embrace and fully support that bipartisan substitute. (Applause.) It will achieve all the essential aims of controlling government spending, reducing the tax burden, building a national defense second to none, and stimulating economic growth and creating millions of new jobs.

At the same time, however, I must state our opposition to the measure offered by the House Budget Committee.

It may appear that we have two alternatives. In reality, however, there are no more alternatives left. The Committee measure quite simply falls far too short of the essential actions that we must take. For example, in the next three years, the Committee measure projects spending \$141 billion more than does the bipartisan substitute; It regrettably cuts over \$14 billion in essential defense spending -funding required to restore America's national security. It adheres to the failed policy of trying to balance the budget on the taxpayer's back. It would increase tax payments by over a third -- adding up to a staggering quarter of a trillion dollars. Federal taxes would increase 12 percent each year. Taxpayers would be paying a larger share of their income to government in 1984 than they do at present. In short, that measure reflects an echo of the past rather than a benchmark for the future. High taxes and excess spending growth created our present economic mess; more of the same will not cure the hardship, anxiety, and discouragement it has imposed on the American people.

With the Space Shuttle we tested our ingenuity once again, moving beyond the accomplishments of the past into the promise and uncertainty of the future. Thus, we not only plan to send up a 122-foot aircraft, 170 miles into space, but we also intended to make it maneuverable and return it to earth, landing 98 tons of exotic metals delicately on a remote dry lakebed.

The Space Shuttle did more than prove our technological abilities. It raised our expectations once more. It started us dreaming again.

The poet Carl Sandburg wrote, "The Republic is a dream. Nothing happens unless first a dream." And that's what makes us, as Americans, different. We've always reached for a new spirit and aimed at a higher goal. We've been courageous and determined, unafraid and bold. Who among us wants to be first to say, "We no longer have those qualities," that we must limp along, doing the same things that have brought us our present misery?

I believe that the people you and I represent are ready to chart a new course. They look to us to meet the great challenge, to reach beyond the commonplace and not fall short for lack of creativity or courage.

Someone, you know, has said that he who would have nothing to do with thorns must never attempt to gather flowers. Well, we have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before.

As Carl Sandburg said, "All we need to begin with is a dream that we can do better than before."

All we need to have is faith and that dream will come true.

All we need to do is act and the time for action is now.

Thank you. Good night. (Applause.)

9:26 P.M. EDT

END

Tonight, I renew my call for us to work as a team -to join in cooperation so that we find answers which will begin to
solve all our economic problems and not just some of them.

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The economic recovery package that I've outlined to you over the past weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer that we have left. Reducing the growth of spending, cutting marginal tax rates, providing relief from overregulation, and following a non-inflationary and predictable monetary policy are interwoven measures which will ensure that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future.

These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget which we're committed to do by 1984. (Applause.)

When I took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- "We the people." Those people -- neighbors and friends, shopkeepers and laborers, farmers and craftsmen, do not have infinite patience.

As a matter of fact, some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress. "The American people are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled, it burns like a consuming flame." Well, perhaps that kind of wrath will be deserved if our answer to these serious problems is to repeat the mistakes of the past. The old and comfortable way is to shave a little here and add a little there. Well, that's not acceptable any more. I think this great and historic Congress knows that way is no longer acceptable. (Applause.) I think you've shown that you know the one sure way to continue the inflationary spiral is to fall back into the predictable patterns of old economic practices. Isn't it time that we tried something new? (Applause.)

When you allowed me to speak to you here in these Chambers a little earlier, I told you that I wanted this program for economic recovery to be ours -- yours and mine. I think the bipartisan substitute bill has achieved that purpose. It moves us toward an economic vitality.

Just two weeks ago, you and I joined millions of our fellow Americans in marveling at the magic historical moment that John Young and Bob Crippen created in their Space Shuttle Columbia.

The last manned effort was almost six years ago, and I remembered how, on this more recent day, how, over the years, how we had all come to expect technological precision of our men and machines. And each amazing achievement became commonplace, until the next new challenge was raised.

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REAGAN-SCENE

WASHINGTON (AP) -- IMPORTANT AS HIS ECONOMIC PACKAGE IS TO HIM, RONALD REAGAN ALSO HAD SOMETHING ELSE TO TELL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TUESDAY IN HIS FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE SINCE HE WAS SHOT. IT BOILS. DOWN TO: I'M OKAY. YOU'RE OKAY.

JUST BEING BACK, IN AN EMOTIONAL APPEARANCE BEFORE A CONGRESS PRIMED TO SHAKE THE RAFTERS IN ITS WELCOME, DEMONSTRATED THE FIRST PART.

REAGAN'S WIDE-OPEN SMILE, HIS AW-SHUCKS WAVE AND THE DRAMA OF MAKING A SPEECH TO CONGRESS FOUR WEEKS AND A DAY AFTER A GUNMAN AIMED A PISTOL AT HIM WAS DESIGNED, FIRST OF ALL, TO REASSURE THE NATION THAT ITS 70-YEAR-OLD WOUNDED PRESIDENT IS BACK IN GOOD HEALTH.

THE SECOND PART OF THE MESSAGE WAS REAGAN'S IDEA. NO SPEECHWRITER PUT THE THOUGHTS IN HIS MOUTH, NO COMMITTEE DECIDED THEY'D BE GOOD P.R. THE PRESIDENT HAD WRITTEN THEM DOWN IN LONG-HAND, ON A SHEET OF YELLOW LEGAL PAPER, WHEN HE FIRST TALKED WITH HIS ADVISERS ON APRIL 17 ABOUT THE SPEECH.

''THE WARNTH OF YOUR WORDS, THE EXPRESSION OF FRIENDSHIP AND, YES, LOVE, MEANT MORE TO US THAN YOU CAN EVER KNOW,'' THE PRESIDENT SAID. ''YOU HAVE GIVEN US A MEMORY WE'LL TREASURE FOREVER.''

AND HIS PRAISE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WAS HIGH:

''YOU'VE PROVIDED THE ANSWER TO THOSE FEW VOICES THAT WERE RAISED SAYING THAT WHAT HAPPENED WAS EVIDENCE THAT OURS IS A SICK SOCIETY,'' REAGAN SAID. ''THE SOCIETY WE HEARD FROM IS MADE UP OF MILLIONS OF COMPASSIONATE AMERICANS AND THEIR CHILDREN FROM COLLEGE AGE TO KINDERGARTEN.''

REAGAN'S OPENING WORDS, THE INTRODUCTION THAT SETS THE MOOD, REMAINED UNCHANGED THROUGH THREE DRAFTS OF A SPEECH THAT A REAGAN SPEECHWRITER SAID ''IS CLOSING THE CIRCLE'' ON THE PRESIDENT'S PUSH FOR HIS ECONOMIC PACKAGE.

REAGAN TALKED ABOUT THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN A SPEECH ON FEB. 5 AND FOLLOWED THAT UP TWO WEEKS LATER BY OFFERING THE PROGRAM HE CONSIDERS TO BE THE BEST SOLUTION. TUESDAY NIGHT, HIS SPEECH WAS A CALL TO ADOPT ''THE CURE WHICH MUST COME.''

''THIS IS THE CULMINATION OF EVERYTHING,'' SAID AN ADVISER WHO DIDN'T WANT HIS NAME USED. ''IT'S THE LOGICAL CONCLUSION TO A PLAN BEGUN ON INAUGURATION DAY OF GIVING CLOSE COOPERATION WITH CONGRESS ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE ECONOMIC PACKAGE.''
AP-WX-04-28-81 1525EDT

### THE WHITE HOUSE

### Office of the Press Secretary

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL 9:00 pm EDT

APRIL 28, 1981

# TEXT OF THE ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS

I have come to speak to you tonight about our economic recovery program and why I believe it is essential that the Congress approve this package which I believe will lift the crushing burden of inflation off of our citizens and restore the vitality to our industrial machine.

First, however, and due to events of the past few weeks, will you permit me to digress for a moment from the all-important subject of why we must bring Government spending under control and reduce tax rates. I would like to say a few words directly to all of you and to those who are watching and listening tonight.

This is the only way I know to express to you on behalf of Nancy and myself our appreciation for your messages, your flowers, and most of all, your prayers -- not only for me but for those others who fell beside me.

The warmth of your words, the expression of friendship and, yes, love, meant more to us than you can ever know. You have given us a memory we'll treasure forever. And you've provided the answer to those few voices that were raised saying that what happened was evidence that ours is a sick society.

The society we heard from is made up of millions of compassionate Americans and their children, from college age to kindergarten.

Sick societies don't produce men like the two who recently returned from outer space. Sick societies don't produce young men like Secret Service Agent Tim McCarthy who placed his body between mine and the man with the gun simply because he felt that's what his duty called for him to do.

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Now, let's talk about getting spending and inflation under control and cutting your tax rates.

Mr. Speaker and Senator Baker, I want to thank you for your cooperation in helping to arrange this Joint Session of the Congress. I won't be speaking to you very long tonight, but I asked for this meeting because the urgency of our joint mission has not changed.

Thanks to some very fine people, my health is much improved. I'd like to be able to say that with regard to the health of our economy. But the fundamental nature of our economic mess has not changed.

It has been half a year since the election that charged all of us in this Government with the task of restoring our economy. Where have we come in these 6 months?

Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, has continued at a double-digit rate.

Mortgage interest rates have averaged almost 15 percent for these 6 months, preventing families across America from buying homes.

There are still almost 8 million people unemployed.

The average worker's hourly earnings, after adjusting for inflation, are lower today than they were 6 months ago and there have been over 6,000 business failures.

Six months is long enough. The American people now want us to act, and not in half measures. They demand -- and they have earned -- a full and comprehensive effort to clean up our economic mess.

Because of the extent of our economy's sickness, we know that the cure will not come quickly, and that even with our package, progress will come in inches and feet, not miles. But to fail to act will delay even longer -- and more painfully -- the cure which must come.

That cure begins with the Federal budget. And the budgetary actions taken by the Congress over the next few days will determine how we respond to the message of last November 4.

That message was very simple. Our Government is too big and it spends too much.

For the last few months, you and I have enjoyed a relationship based on extraordinary cooperation. Because of this cooperation we have come a long distance in less than 3 months. I want to thank the leadership of the Congress for helping in setting a fair timetable for consideration of my recommendations. And committee chairmen on both sides of the aisle have called prompt and thorough hearings.

We have also communicated in a spirit of candor, openness, and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision day nears, and as the House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in that same spirit.

The House will soon be choosing between two different measures to deal with the economy. One is the measure offered by the House Budget Committee. The other is a bipartisan measure -- a substitute introduced by Congressmen Phil Gramm of Texas and Del Latta of Ohio.

On behalf of the Administration, let me say we embrace and fully support that bipartisan substitute. It will achieve all the essential aims of controlling Government spending and reducing the tax burden, building a national defense second to none, and stimulating economic growth and creating millions of new jobs.

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MORE

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- In short, the Committee measure reflects an echo of the past rather than a benchmark for the future. High taxes and excess spending growth created our present economic mess; more of the same will not cure the hardship, anxiety, and discouragement it has imposed on the American people.

Let us cut through the fog for a moment. The answer to a government that's too big is to stop feeding its growth. Government spending has been growing faster than the economy itself. The massive national debt which we accumulated is the result of the Government's rich spending diet. Well, it's time to change the diet and to change it in the right way.

I know the tax portion of our package is of concern to some of you. Let me make a few points I feel have been overlooked. First of all, it should be looked at as an integral part of the entire package, not something separate and apart from the budget reductions, the regulatory relief, and the monetary restraints.

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Tonight I renew my call for us to work as a team -- to join in cooperation so that we find answers which will begin to solve all our economic problems and not just some.

The economic recovery package that I have outlined to you over the past few weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer we have left. Reducing the growth of spending, cutting marginal tax rates, providing relief from overregulation, and following a non-inflationary and predictable monetary policy are interwoven measures which will ensure that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future.

These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget -- which we are committed to do by 1984.

When took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- "We the people." Those people -- neighbors and friends, shopkeepers and laborers, farmers and craftsmen -- do not have infinite patience. Some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress: "The American people," he said, "are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled, it burns like a consuming flame."

Perhaps that kind of wrath will be deserved if our answer to these serious problems is to repeat the mistakes of the past. The old and comfortable way is to shave a little here and add a little there. Well, that's not acceptable any more. I think this great and historic Congress knows that that way is no longer acceptable.

The one sure way to continue the inflationary spiral is to fall back into the predictable patterns of old economic practices.

In't it time that we tried something new?

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### THE WHITE HOUSE

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APRIL 28, 1981

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There are still almost 8 million people unemployed.

The average worker's hourly earnings, after adjusting for inflation, are lower today than they were 6 months ago and there have been over 6,000 business failures.

Six months is long enough. The American people now want us to act, and not in half measures. They demand -- and they have earned -- a full and comprehensive effort to clean up our economic mess.

Because of the extent of our economy's sickness, we know that the cure will not come quickly, and that even with our package, progress will come in inches and feet, not miles. But to fail to act will delay even longer -- and more painfully -- the cure which must come.

That cure begins with the Federal budget. And the budgetary actions taken by the Congress over the next few days will determine how we respond to the message of last November 4.

That message was very simple. Our Government is too big and it spends too much.

For the last few months, you and I have enjoyed a relationship based on extraordinary cooperation. Because of this cooperation we have come a long distance in less than 3 months. I want to thank the leadership of the Congress for helping in setting a fair timetable for consideration of my recommendations. And committee chairmen on both sides of the aisle have called prompt and thorough hearings.

We have also communicated in a spirit of candor, openness, and mutual respect. Tonight, as our decision day nears, and as the House of Representatives weighs its alternatives, I wish to address you in that same spirit.

The House will soon be choosing between two different measures to deal with the economy. One is the measure offered by the House Budget Committee. The other is a bipartisan measure -- a substitute introduced by Congressmen Phil Gramm of Texas and Del Latta of Ohio.

On behalf of the Administration, let me say we embrace and fully support that bipartisan substitute. It will achieve all the essential aims of controlling Government spending and reducing the tax burden, building a national defense second to none, and stimulating economic growth and creating millions of new jobs.

At the same time, however, I must state our opposition to the measure offered by the House Budget Committee.

It may appear that we have two alternatives. In reality, however, there are no more alternatives left. The Committee measure quite simply falls far too short of the essential actions that we must take. For example, in the next three years:

- The Committee measure projects spending \$141 billion more than does the bipartisan substitute.
- -- It regrettably cuts over \$14 billion in essential defense funding -- funding required to restore America's national security.

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- -- It adheres to the failed policy of trying to balance the budget on the taxpayer's back. It would increase tax payments by over a third -- adding up to a staggering quarter trillion dollars. Federal taxes would increase 12 percent each year. Taxpayers would be paying a larger share of their income to Government in 1984 than at present.
- -- In short, the Committee measure reflects an echo of the past rather than a benchmark for the future. High taxes and excess spending growth created our present economic mess; more of the same will not cure the hardship, anxiety, and discouragement it has imposed on the American people.

Let us cut through the fog for a moment. The answer to a government that's too big is to stop feeding its growth. Government spending has been growing faster than the economy itself. The massive national debt which we accumulated is the result of the Government's rich spending diet. Well, it's time to change the diet and to change it in the right way.

I know the tax portion of our package is of concern to some of you. Let me make a few points I feel have been overlooked. First of all, it should be looked at as an integral part of the entire package, not something separate and apart from the budget reductions, the regulatory relief, and the monetary restraints.

Probably the most common misconception is that we are proposing to reduce Government revenues to less than what Government has been receiving. This is not true. Actually, the discussion has to do with how much of a tax increase should be imposed on the taxpayer in 1982. A gigantic tax increase has been built into the system. We are proposing nothing more than a reduction of that increase.

The people have a right to know that even with our plan they will be paying more in taxes, but not as much more.

The option offered by the House Budget Committee will leave spending too high and tax rates too high. At the same time it cuts the defense budget too much. And, by attempting to reduce the deficit through higher taxes, it will not create the kind of strong economic growth and the new jobs we must have. Let us not overlook the fact that the small, independent business man or woman creates more than 80 percent of all the new jobs and employs more than half our work force. Our across-the-board cut in tax rates for a 3-year period will give them much of the incentive and promise of stability they need to go forward with expansion plans calling for additional employees.

Tonight I renew my call for us to work as a team -- to join in cooperation so that we find answers which will begin to solve all our economic problems and not just some.

The economic recovery package that I have outlined to you over the past few weeks is, I deeply believe, the only answer we have left. Reducing the growth of spending, cutting marginal tax rates, providing relief from overregulation, and following a non-inflationary and predictable monetary policy are interwoven measures which will ensure that we have addressed each of the severe dislocations which threaten our economic future.

These policies will make our economy stronger, and the stronger economy will balance the budget -- which we are committed to do by 1984.

-4-When took the oath of office, I pledged loyalty to only one special interest group -- "We the people." Those people -- neighbors and friends, shopkeepers and laborers, farmers and craftsmen -- do not have infinite patience. Some 80 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt wrote these instructive words in his first message to the Congress: "The American people," he said, "are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled, it burns like a consuming flame." Perhaps that kind of wrath will be deserved if our answer to these serious problems is to repeat the mistakes of the past. The old and comfortable way is to shave a little here and add a little there. Well, that's not acceptable any more. I think this great and historic Congress knows that that way is no longer acceptable. The one sure way to continue the inflationary spiral is to fall back into the predictable patterns of old economic practices. Ion't it time that we tried something new? When you allowed me to speak to you here in these Chambers before, I told you I wanted this program for economic recovery to be ours yours and mine. I think the bipartisan substitute bill has achieved It moves us toward restored economic vitality. that purpose. Just two weeks ago, I joined millions of my fellow Americans in marveling at the magic historical moment that John Young and Bob Crippen created in their Space Shuttle Columbia. The last manned effort was almost six years ago, and I remembered how, over the years, we had all come to expect technological precision of our men and machines. Each amazing achievement became commonplace, until the next new challenge was raised. With the Space Shuttle, we tested our ingenuity once again -moving beyond the accomplishments of the past into the promise and uncertainty of the future. Thus, we not only planned to send up a 122-foot aircraft, 170 miles into space, but also intended to make it maneuverable and return it to Earth -- landing 98 tons of exotic metals delicately on a remote dry lake bed. The Space Shuttle did more than prove our technological abilities, it raised our expectations once more; it started us dreaming again. "The republic is a dream," wrote Carl Sandburg. "Nothing happens unless first a dream.' That's what makes us Americans different. We have always reached for a new spirit and aimed at a higher goal. We've been courageous td determined, unafraid and bold. Who among us wants to be first to say we no longer have those qualities? That we must limp along doing the same things that have brought us our present misery. Delieve the people you and I represent are ready to chart a new course. They look to us to meet the great challenge -- to reach beyond the commonplace and not fall short for lack of creativity or courage. Someone has said: He who would have nothing to do ritt thorns must never attempt to gather flowers. e have much greatness before us. We can restore our economic strength and build opportunities like none we've ever had before. As Carl Sandburg said, all we need to begin with is a dream that we an do better than before. All we need to have is faith, and that dream will come true. All we need to do is act, and the time for action is now. hank you and good night. # # #