

Nixon

Bids for Support

He Promises Compromises If Necessary

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President Nixon went to the American people yesterday to seek support for the new legislative proposals he will lay before Congress today.

In a taped radio broadcast, he agreed to compromise on his programs, if necessary, so that legislation is passed before the end of the year. Cautioning that the American system requires both strong Executive and Legislative branches, he argued against undue restraints on Presidential powers.

In an apparently conciliatory mood, the President scheduled breakfast today with congressional leaders of both parties before his special message goes to Capitol Hill at noon.

An early test of the mood for compromise will come Wednesday when the House votes on whether to override the President's veto of a three-year, \$185 million emergency medical services bill which would block administration plans to close eight public service hospitals.

The Senate voted 77 to 16 to override, but the House vote is expected to be close.

Mr. Nixon yesterday cited six major areas for immediate legislative action:

- Establishing a stable prosperity without inflation.
- Ensuring that the nation's energy needs are met.
- Building better and more livable communities.
- Making full use of the nation's human resources.
- Combating the "scourge of crime and drugs."
- Maintaining a level of national defense that preserves peace.

Of these six areas, he singled out the nation's economy as having the most urgent needs and added his goal was "to achieve what America has not enjoyed since the days of

President Eisenhower—full prosperity without inflation and without war."

"In some cases, there are real philosophical differences over how best to meet the needs we face," he said. "The American tradition has always been that we argue these differences out, we compromise some, we settle others by a test of strength.

"But it is important that we act, that we decide, that we get on with the business of Government—that we not let whatever may be our disagreements over the means of achieving these goals bar us from the achievement."

Despite public statements by Democrats and Republicans that the war against inflation is not being won, Mr. Nixon said, "We have already made substantial progress toward this goal and because of this progress, the average American family today—despite inflation—has a higher level of real spendable income than ever before."

To combat inflation, the President said he had added tough economic controls this month and had tried vigorously to expand production. He warned, however, that the biggest inflationary danger is federal overspending.

"Programs which the Congress either has already passed or is now considering would produce an additional deficit of \$6 billion, and in addition, the Congress has not yet made nearly \$1.5 billion of

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cuts that I have recommended," he said.

These cuts will not be made, Mr. Nixon said, without the public's support "in those difficult decisions every member of Congress faces when confronted with a vote on a bill that would help some of the people, but that would raise the cost of living for all of the people."

Earlier this year, the President tried to impose these cuts himself through impoundment of funds, but federal judges have held, in almost every instance, that he exceeded his authority.

The President's budget called for spending \$268.7 billion in fiscal 1974. The Senate has insrtid a \$268 billion ceiling and the House has agreed to a \$267.1 billion ceiling in pending legislation. No final agreement has been reached.

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) yesterday disagreed with the President's figures. Inouye, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said Congress spent \$20 billion less than Mr. Nixon requested in the first four years

of his administration.

"By now we have cut his request by nearly \$26 billion," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Inouye added that the Senate Appropriations Committee's goal this year is to cut the President's budget request by at least \$3 billion.

In addition to the emergency medical services vote, other touchy matters affecting Executive-Legislative relations come before the Congress this week.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee resumes hearings on confirmation of Henry A. Kissinger to be Secretary of State.

(Senate Republican leader Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania told the CBS television program "Face the Nation" yesterday that Kissinger played only a routine role in the FBI wiretapping of his assistants.

He promised confirmation.)

The House will consider today whether to cite G. Gordon Liddy, convicted Watergate figure, for contempt of Congress for his refusal to testify before an Armed Forces investigation subcommittee. The Senate considers the nomination of Russell E. Train as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Tuesday the House takes up compromise State Department spending authorizations. Both houses will debate aid to urban mass transit systems during the week, and the House Banking Committee begins a two-week probe of credit costs and the nation's financial institutions.

Although Mr. Nixon said he was willing "to make those reasonable adjustments that are necessary to reach a common objective," he gave three basic principles which he considered essential to any agreement.

First, he said, "we must maintain a national defense sufficient to safeguard us from attack, and to provide an incentive for mutual reductions in the burden of armaments for all the world."

The other two principles he cited are curbing federal spending and maintaining both strong executive and legislative branches of government.

He said there still is "enough time to make 1973 a year in which we not only ended the longest war in America's history, but in which we laid the foundation for turning the blessings of peace into a better life for all."