

Nixon Offers National Program

# President Confident In Talk

## Aims to Halt Fuel Crisis, Ensure Peace

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President Nixon, speaking confidently of the next three years of his presidency, presented Congress last night with a 10-point program that he said would "break the back of the energy crisis," head off recession and strengthen the structure of peace.

The President said he would fight for a major health-insurance program covering all Americans, and work to improve the nation's public transportation system.

His budget, to be sent to Congress Monday, will provide for spending of \$304.4 billion in the next fiscal year, with a projected deficit of \$9.4 billion, Mr. Nixon said.

He repeated his pledge not to ask for higher taxes and said he would not hesitate to spend additional funds if needed to protect the economy against recession.

In a 50-page written message accompanying the shorter speech he delivered in person before a joint session, the President's only Watergate reference was a rebuke to lawmakers for failure to establish a commission on campaign practices he urged last May.

Since they have not acted, he said, he will send his own proposals for campaign reform to Congress in an early message.

He said he had ordered "an extensive Cabinet-level review" covering the right of privacy and the government's "legitimate needs" for information.

Without commenting on his own administration's much-criticized wiretap practices, he said that "the safeguards to protect the privacy of individuals and communications have not kept pace" with the

new surveillance technology.

In two passages in the written message, the President spoke of his intention to serve out his term, once referring to "the remaining three years of this term" and another time declaring that "the chief legacy" he hopes to leave

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### MESSAGE, From A1

"from the eight years of my presidency" is a sound structure of peace.

"I have one overriding aim," the President declared, "to establish a structure of peace in the world that can free future generations from the scourge of war.

"Others may have different priorities; this has been and will remain my first priority, the chief legacy that I hope to leave from the eight years of my presidency."

While fighting for peace, the President also pledged, he will work for a strong defense, and said that he would recommend a "substantial increase" in the Defense Department budget for Fiscal 1975.

He told members of Congress that their pay and the

pay of other top government officials had not kept pace with other pay increases and with those in the lower grades. Therefore, he proposed a three-stage increase in executive, legislative and judicial salaries, at the rate of 7½ per cent annually for each of the next three years.

The President outlined his 10 major programs as follows:

1. Break the back of the current energy crisis and lay the basis for supplying energy needs in the future from domestic production.

2. "Take another giant stride toward lasting peace in the world" by continuing his policy of negotiation rather than confrontation, and helping to achieve a Middle East settlement.

3. Check the rise in prices without bringing on recession.

4. Establish a new system of comprehensive health insurance.

5. Continue to improve federal-state relations by cutting red tape and strengthening revenue-sharing programs.

6. Make "a crucial breakthrough toward better transportation" with increased federal assistance to state and local public transport systems.

7. Reform the system of federal aid to education.

8. Protect the right of privacy.

9. Reform the welfare system with an income-maintenance plan that is both simple to administer and efficient and carries no tax increase.

10. Improve the world trading system with more open access to both markets and supplies.

"The No. 1 legislative concern must be the energy crisis," the President said.

"Even with the full cooperation of most Americans . . . we still face real challenges—and genuine shortages—in the months and years immediately ahead . . . We must adjust to the fact that the age of unlimited supplies of cheap energy is ended."

The President said that a slowdown in economic growth in the first half of this year "is inevitable" because the recent high rate of growth is has been "an unsustainable rate."

Output is expected to rise "little if at all" in the early part of the year and unemployment "will rise somewhat and inflation will be high," he said.

"Our objective, however, is to turn this situation around so that later in the year output will be rising more rapidly, while unemployment will stop rising and will then decline, and the rate of inflation will slow."