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By El. BUA

# A Little Talk With His Friends

By Clifford Daniel  
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Washington

Mr. Ford was not an inaugural  
speech by a President  
of the United States.

soft-edged rather than any  
biting straight talk among  
the friends which was how  
President Ford described  
the remarks he made after  
being sworn in last Friday.

**A**  
**News**  
**Analysis**

The friends to whom he  
addressed his remarks yes-  
terday even-  
ing were in-  
deed. They  
were the as-  
sembled  
members of  
the U.S. Senate and House of  
Representatives, a body in  
which Mr. Ford served for  
25 years and where he  
claims not to have a "single  
enemy."

ious to show their approval  
of him and their hopes for  
his administration.

The speech, however, was  
not all that much of a depar-  
ture from the policies and  
plans of his discredited  
predecessor.

When Mr. Ford started  
listing the legislation he  
wanted, he sounded very  
much like Richard M. Nixon  
in his State of the Union ad-  
dress last January 30.

They both talked about in-  
flation, energy, health care,  
education and, surprising  
enough, "protecting the  
rights of personal privacy  
for every American" — to  
use Mr. Nixon's words.

Mr. Ford elicited an extra  
cheer and a half when add-  
ed, "There will be no illegal  
tappings, eavesdroppings,  
buggings or break-ins in my  
administration."

The word "my" was un-  
derlined both in his text and  
in his delivery.

Among those who heard  
these words, which implied  
a rebuke to Mr. Nixon, were  
Mr. Nixon's daughter, Julie,

and her husband, David El-  
senhower. They were in the  
audience.

No doubt the legislative  
priorities presented by Mr.  
Nixon and Mr. Ford were  
similar because the nation's  
problems remain the same,  
and the government has not  
dealt vigorously with them.

Most of the program Mr.  
Nixon outlined in January is  
still languishing in Congress.  
There was a similarity not  
only in the programs out-  
lined but also in the vague-  
ness of the remedies prop-  
osed for the nation's No. 1  
problem, inflation.

Mr. Ford was no more  
concrete at night than Mr.  
Nixon was three weeks ago  
when, in his last public ap-  
pearance before resigning  
from office, he delivered a  
televized address on the  
economy from Los Angeles.

Mr. Ford proposed to bal-  
ance the federal budget, cut  
government spending, reac-  
tivate the Cost of Living  
Council to monitor wages  
and prices and convene an  
economic summit meeting  
with the President himself

presiding.  
It was exactly a  
spring-tingling set of propos-  
als.  
Still, for all its lack of nov-  
elty and substance, Mr.  
Ford's first appearance be-  
fore a joint session of Con-  
gress was obviously heart-  
warming, both for the audi-



**PRESIDENT WAS SURROUNDED ON HOUSE FLOOR  
He shook hands with many of his former colleagues**

AP Wirephoto

ence and for the speaker.  
All down the aisle, enter-  
ing and leaving the House  
chamber, the President  
paused to shake hands. He  
and House Speaker Carl Al-  
bert swapped congressional  
jokes. Old friends could be  
heard calling the new Presi-  
dent "Jerry."

Although Mr. Ford could  
never earn a living as a  
standup comedian, he man-  
aged to get five audible  
laughs out of his speech.  
The first one was when he  
said, "I don't want a honey-  
moon with you. I want a  
good marriage."  
And the speech may be re-  
membered as much for that  
line as any.