

From editorial:

Mr. Nixon's message to Congress is more a propaganda effort to restore the Administration's crippled prestige than a serious attempt to engage in a constructive dialogue concerning legislation. Mr. Nixon ranged across more than fifty legislative proposals from the Alaska pipeline to the restoration of the death penalty, from school busing to the problem of conversion to the metric system.

These measures are not of equal weight or urgency, but together they serve to create the impression of activity and concern on the part of an Administration that has been reeling for months from the Watergate scandals.

Mr. Nixon adopted a conciliatory tone and referred several times to opportunities for compromise, but beneath the rhetorical surface he has yielded nothing of substance. \*

..... Several constructive programs are endorsed in broad principle ... but the endorsements are hedged by the usual Nixonian strictures against imposing "an excessive financial burden on the Federal Government" - in short, that beautiful chassis minus a motor, which the President so often favors.

..... The Democratic majorities in the House and Senate are ... on notice that if any compromising is to be done, Congress will be expected to do the yielding. \*

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\* From report by Neil Sheehan (NYTimes 6 Sep 65, filed Nixon) on Nixon press conference in Saigon:

Under questioning, Mr. Nixon said that if the word "negotiations" implied concessions by both sides, he was opposed to any negotiations.