
Transcript of an Address by Vice President Ford

Following is a transcript of Vice President Ford's address last night as recorded by *The New York Times*:

This is one of the most difficult and very saddest periods and one of the very saddest incidents I've ever witnessed.

Let me say that I think the President of the United States has made one of the greatest personal sacrifices for the country and one of the finest personal decisions on behalf of all of us as Americans by his decision to resign as President of the United States.

It has been my opportunity to watch over a period of nearly 25 years a foreign policy in the last five years that has been most successful in the achievement of peace for all of us here and hopefully the rest of the world.

It has been a policy that I think can continue peace in the months and years ahead. Let me say without any hesitation or reservation that the policy that has achieved peace and built the blocks for future peace will be continued as

far as I'm concerned as President of the United States.

"We've been fortunate in the last five years to have a very great man in Henry Kissinger who has had to build the blocks of peace under President Nixon. I think those policies should be continued.

And those policies of peace will be continued. I have asked Henry Kissinger, as Secretary of State, to stay on, and to be the Secretary of State under the new Administration.

I've known Henry Kissinger for a great many years. I knew him before he came with the Nixon Administration. I want him to be my Secretary of State and I'm glad to announce that he will be the Secretary of State.

Which means that he and I will be working together in the pursuit of peace in the future as we have achieved it in the past.

We have many other problems.

We have problems at home which must be resolved.

And they can be resolved and will be resolved by the cooperation of the

Congress with the President and those that work with him.

I've been very fortunate in my lifetime and public office to have a good many adversaries in the political arena in the Congress.

But I don't think I have a single enemy in the Congress.

And the net result is that I think tomorrow I can start out working with Democrats and with Republicans in the House as well as in the Senate to work on the problems—serious ones—which we have at home.

And the spirit of cooperation which I believe will be exhibited with the Congress and the new President and the problems overseas and the problems at home will be beneficial not only to 211 million fine Americans but the world as a whole.

And I pledge to you tonight, as I will pledge tomorrow and in the future my best efforts in cooperation, leadership and dedication to what's good for America and good for the world.

Thank you very much.

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