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Excerpts from a June 24 C-SPAN Viewer Call-In with REPS. RICHARD DURBIN (D-IL) and AMORY HOUGHTON (R-NY). This 50-minute program examined the Federal Budget and the Budget Resolution which passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday, June 23. What follows are several of Rep. Richard Durbin's remarks on the Budget Resolution.

Q - Is Congress facing a confrontation with President Reagan over the Budget Resolution?

Richard Durbin - "I don't think there's any questions about it. The statements made and the general attitude suggests that unless we reach some accommodation, we're going to see sparks flying for the next several months."

Q - What kind of sparks?

R.D. - "Quite honestly, we're not going to reduce the Budget deficit unless we come up with a bipartisan solution. Ultimately,

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the bills have to be sent to the President for signature. So we are miles apart from having any resolution made."

R.D. - "I can tell you when I first arrived in Congress in '83, the appeal by President Reagan to stand at large and defy Congress, resulted in a mailbag full of letters from [my] district in the course of the [following] week or two.

A little over a week ago, the President came on television in a national press conference and he suggested he wanted the American people to rally behind his position on the budget. In the ensuing five days, I received one letter in my congressional office and it was from outside my district. Since then I've received five others. Three were in favor and two were opposing, so it's not like in the old days. I agree that the President has not been as effective as he has been in the past."

Q - Why is that?

R.D. - "Let's be candid. The President is nearing the end of his presidency. He's under fire because of the Iran-Contra affair. He was hurt with the results of the last Senate election. At this point he's in a weakened position. He doesn't really have the ability to rally the people as he did before. The President calls for a balanced budget and I think everyone knows the

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President has submitted seven budgets to Capitol Hill. Every single one has called for a deficit. Each year he calls for a balanced budget amendment [to be] saved from his own sin. In this situation, I think people realize that it's a much more complicated task and, as [Rep.] Amory [Houghton] suggests, it's going to call for a bipartisan solution. The President has to get involved."

R.D. - "Every single year I've been here before, the Republicans have proposed their own budget solution. This year, there was nothing forthcoming from the Republican side of the aisle. Democrats were talking [amongst] ourselves, trying to come up with some resolution and realizing that every step of the way we shouldn't count on the Republican side [for] support. I hope at this point things change and we can all come together.

R.D. - "We're falling behind when it comes to handicapped education, compensatory education, education such as Title 1 to stop drop-outs, student aid for those who go to college and as a nation. If we are going to be competitive, we've got to invest in education."

R.D. - "We have cut back on health care, pre-natal for medicaid mothers and for the working poor. Now the U.S. is burdened with the reputation of having the worst infant mortality rate of all industrialized nations in the world. The causes are unfortunate

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that we've cut back too much. We should be more specific and when we are specific, we'll find there are a lot of areas that need to be served."

BUDGET PRIORITIES

R.D. - "The spread between the 'haves' and 'have nots' in this country over the last six or seven years in this administration has grown wider. That is a poor commentary on what this government and the economy of our nation should be all about. At a time when the President suggested he was creating more opportunity, we find that those who were wealthy to start with, are getting wealthier and those who were poor to start with are getting poorer and unfortunately the group in the middle, the middle class, is finding themselves leaning towards the poorer. What the government should be doing is creating opportunities. As a government, we have the responsibility to create an economic transition if it isn't there and in this situation it isn't. I think some of the priorities have to be changed in this nation."

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Newspapers we sent excerpts
to for Rep. Durbin

The Paper 340 Williams St. P.O. Box 155 Barry, IL 62312 Ed. Debra J. Harshman	217-335-2112
Benld Enterprise 216 E. Central P.O. Box 137 Benld, IL 62009 Ed. Paul Sassone	312-251-4300
Gazette-News 150 N. Washington Bunker Hill, IL 62014 Ed. Carl L. Stanton	618-585-4411
Macoupin County Enquirer, Inc. 125 E. Main Street P.O. Box 235 Carlinville, IL 62626 Ed. Chris Schmitt	217-854-2534
Gazette-Patriot 428 E. N. Main Street P.O. Box 231 Carrollton, IL 62016 Ed. Albert W. Scott III	217-942-3626
Chatham Clarion Auburn, 114 E. Walnut Chatham, IL 62615 Publisher- Joseph Michelich, Jr.	NO PH #
Area News 112-16 W. Chestnut P.O. Box 178 Gillepsie, IL 62033 Ed. Gary L. Dufner	217-839-2130
The Girard Gazette 169 W. Jackson St. P.O. Box 339 Girard, IL 62690 Ed, Norris Jones	217-965-3355
Hillsboro Journal 431 S. Main Street Box 100 Hillsboro, IL 62049	217-532-3933
News Journal c/o Greater Alton Pub. Inc. 329 Belle St. Alton Jerseyville, IL 62002 Ed. Dennis Grutbaugh	618-498-9556

The Mount Zion Region News
130 Wildwood Dr.
P.O. Box C.
Mt. Zion, IL 62549
Ed. Don Weaver

News Palladium
205 S. Locust Street
Pana, IL 62557
Ed. Marilyn Shanta

217-562-2113

Pawnee Post
110 N. 5th Street
P.O. Box 69
Auburn, IL 62615
Ed. Joseph Michelich, Jr.

no ph. #

The Pike Press
115 W. Jefferson
Pittsfield, IL 62363
Ed. Allan A. Seiler

Illinois Times
610 S. Seventh P.O. Box 3524
Springfield, IL 62708
Ed. Fletcher F. Farrar, Jr.

217-753-2226

Staunton Star-Times
108 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 180
Staunton, IL 62088
Ed. Walter F. Haase

618-635-2000

The Virden Recorder
169 W. Jackson Street
P.O. Box 339
Virden, IL 62690
Ed. Norris E. Jones

217-965-3355

North Green News
112 East Sherman
White Hall, IL 62092
Ed. Lance Wuellner

217-374-2871



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Excerpts from a June 24 C-SPAN Viewer Call-In with REPS. AMORY HOUGHTON (R-NY) and RICHARD DURBIN (D-IL). This 50-minute program examined the 1988 Federal Budget and the Budget Resolution which passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday, June 23. What follows are several of Rep. Houghton's remarks on the Budget Resolution.

Q - Is Tuesday's vote setting the stage for a fight with the President?

Amory Houghton - "I hope not. It all depends on what happens. There is a group of us trying to get together in a bipartisan manner to try to keep the budget within some sort of regional bound. I think the basic thrust of it is that the American people-- not only in terms of their money, but of their credit -- have a lot at stake here."

Q - Since the budget process has been going on so long already and since there hasn't been any accord reached so far, what makes

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you think one can be reached now?

A.H. - "I'd like to think that we're getting so close to the brink, that some sort of reality is going to be forthcoming here. I get this feeling from the Democrats I'm working with. They feel no longer is this a partisan issue and is this something we can put some figures on a page and forget about it. Some sort of reality is going to have come about. Whether or not it comes this year-- I hope so --but if not, it's got to come together pretty soon."

Q - What impact if any has the President had, going around the country talking about the deficits and talking about the spending?

A.H. - "I think the President's rhetoric is less effective than it has been in the past and for a variety of reasons. I think he's talked about it a great deal and the more you've talked about it and the less that's done, sometimes you get tarnished by the same brush. I have a feeling both sides will have to give a little bit. The important thing to this is that every single year since 1980, except one, the Congress has not only exceeded the budget, but also its own spending level connotations and I think that is wrong."

Q - You have a business background. How do you look at this

budget resolution?

A.H. - "Mush. It means nothing. Both parties are very partisan in their approach. They give the Democrats' response to what the Republicans are doing. In the final analysis, that isn't important. What's important is, what does the budget do? As far as the budget, Congress feels it has the responsibility to do what it feels is right. But what it feels is right is piecemeal..."

A.H. - "As far as where we are planning on going as a nation, it's where you want to go-- where I want to go, not where the government wants to go. The government has one responsibility right now, it is whatever number it fixes as far as deficit is concerned. [Deficit reduction] ought to have two characteristics: One, it ought to be heading south and secondly, we have to hold to it. That's the most important thing. We do have problems and we've got to help and Congress has got to play its part. There's an enormous exuberance, resiliency and entrepreneurship and it's up to you and it's up to me and all others to make that happen. I think we've got the setting to make it happen. It's not a question of defense or education. We can do both. The second most important things, really, are taking care of those people who cannot take care of themselves and also making sure we've got the proper educational facilities and opportunities for kids. We can do that, but we can't do everything and somehow we've got to...sort that out."

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Newspapers for Rep. Houghton

The Steuben Courier-Advocate
10 W. Steuben St. Box 430
Bath, N.Y. 14810
Ed. Nancy Becker

607-776-2121

Cuba Patriot & Free Press
23 Genesee Street
Cuba, N.Y. 14724
Ed. Rose Williamson

716-968-2580

Chemung Valley Reporter
205 S. Main Street
P.O. Box 91
Horseheads, N.Y. 14845

607-739-3001

Mayville Sentinel
41 E. Main Street
P.O. Box 38
Westfield, N.Y. 14787
Ed. Bridget Best

716-326-3163

Watkins Glen Review
P.O. Box 112
Watkins Glen, N.Y. 14891
Ed. Malcolm Currie

607-535-2711

Press work for week of June 29

- o NAACP release
 - sent to black press
 - Black Careers
 - Black Collegian
 - Ebony
 - Jet
 - Black Enterprise
 - Also sent to top black newspapers in each state
- o wrote letter to accompany Constitution ad mailing along with this had rubber stamp made for mailing
- o letter to Simon Applebaum with programming descriptions on "Inside the Constitution" and "Road to the White House" for Storer cable guide insert
- o working on pictures to go with story for Storer cable guide insert
- o called press with information on satellite scrambling hearings
 - Richard Acello, Satellite TV Week
 - Rob Stoddard, Cable TV Business
 - John Wolfe, CableVision
 - Judy Topper, Cable Marketing
- o Iran/contra hearings schedule
 - Pat Pisano, Newsday
 - Ann Hodges, Houston Chronicle
 - Scott Blakey, San Francisco Chronicle
 - Peter Farrell, Oregonian
- o called some of the participants of the Broadcasting/Cable Interface program to inform them of the upcoming air time -- will continue to call remaining people