A Fiery Hand

By David F. Brinkley

A fiery hand. This was the characteristic gesture of Richard Nixon, the 37th President of the United States, when he was delivering his final State of the Union message to Congress on January 29, 1973.

The message was a direct response to the Watergate scandal, which had begun to engulf Nixon's administration. His hand was raised in a gesture of determination, as if he were ready to take on the challenge of the crisis.

The message was a call to action, urging Congress to move forward with the impeachment process. Nixon's hand was an symbol of his determination to see the matter through, no matter what the cost.

The message was widely praised by Nixon's supporters, who saw it as a sign of his strength and resolve. It was also seen as a sign of his determination to see the matter through, no matter what the cost.

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