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Letter from a Connecticut Supporter to Geraldine Ferraro

Geraldine Ferraro

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Representative Geraldine Ferraro
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Sept. 5, 1984

Dear Ms. Ferraro,

I applaud your speech in Hartford, Conn., at the Old State House on Aug. 30. Your call for arms control negotiations is in marked contrast to the negative, confrontationist attitude of President Reagan on foreign policy and arms control. Since the Reagan administration has and is working to undermine the entire world foundation of arms control agreements painstakingly built up by both Republican and Democratic presidents over the last twenty years, there is a great need for the Democratic presidential and vice presidential candidates to emphasize the need for new constructive negotiations plus the need for a summit meeting between the U.S. and Soviet leadership with "first strike" weapons being placed in Europe (i.e., the Cruise missile and especially the Pershing II) the time is now
to get the message across to the American people that new approaches have to be tried in this area. All the other major countries of the western world—including conservative governments in U.S., Germany & Britain—want serious, substantive new initiatives in the East-West arms control talks. They know all too well the horrors of a major conventional war, and they know that there would be no western or Soviet world left if a third world war were to take place. Apparently, the arrogant Reagan administration, with its shallow White House advisory staff, does not appreciate this danger.

Please continue to remind the American electorate of the trigger-happy rhetoric of the present administration (i.e., discussions of “warning shots,” the selling of the ridiculous concept of a “limited” nuclear war and the numerous insults against Russia, including the disgusting “bombing Russia” remark this August.
Perhaps if you emphasize this theme, along with the environmental and public education crises themes, you will be able to offset Reagan's lead in the polls. I just heard Walter Mondale's courageous American Legion speech on arms control and I say—he should continue to emphasize this theme all the way across America and in the TV debates.

Please let me know your views on these issues.

Sincerely

Alan R. Darling

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