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Seattle Rally Speech

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SEATTLE RALLY SPEECH

AUGUST 16, 1984

HORACE GREELEY WAS RIGHT WHEN HE WROTE
THOSE FAMOUS WORDS: "GO WEST, YOUNG WOMAN, GO WEST."

WELL MAYBE THOSE WEREN'T HIS EXACT WORDS.
BUT LET ME TELL YOU ~~EL~~ SOMETHING. WE'VE COME WEST
EARLY ... WE'RE COMING HERE OFTEN ... AND WE'RE
COMING HERE TO WIN.

I WANT TO ASK YOU A QUESTION: CAN MONDALE
AND FERRARO CARRY THE STATE OF WASHINGTON? YOU BET
WE CAN.

CAN WE BEAT RONALD REAGAN? YOU BET WE CAN.

CAN WE GIVE AMERICA THE LEADERSHIP THIS
COUNTRY DESERVES AND THE WORLD ~~DESERVES?~~ ^{EXPECTS?} YOU BET WE CAN.

* * *

I'VE LOVED THIS TRIP THROUGH CALIFORNIA AND
OREGON AND NOW THIS TREMENDOUS WELCOME IN SEATTLE.

EVERYWHERE I'VE GONE THIS WEEK I FEEL AN
EXCITEMENT IN THE AIR.

THERE IS AN ENTHUSIASM, AN ENERGY, A SENSE OF HOPE THAT OLD BARRIERS ARE COMING DOWN AND NEW DOORS ARE OPENING UP.

AND THIS CAMPAIGN IS ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE.

IT'S ABOUT THE SENIOR CITIZENS I MET WITH IN SACRAMENTO WHO ARE AFRAID OF A SICKNESS THEY CAN'T AFFORD ... A MEDICAL BILL THEY CANNOT PAY.

IT'S ABOUT THE CRIME VICTIMS I MET WITH IN LOS ANGELES WHO ASK ONLY, THAT HAVING BEEN VICTIMS ONCE, THEY NOT BE VICTIMS AGAIN OF AN UNCARING SYSTEM.

IT'S ABOUT WORKING PEOPLE I MET WITH --- FROM THE SILICON VALLEY IN CALIFORNIA TO THE SHEET METAL WORKERS HERE IN SEATTLE --- WHO SEE DEFICITS PUSHING UP INTEREST RATES AND THREATENING THEIR JOBS.

AND THE MESSAGE I HEAR FROM ALL THESE AMERICANS IS THAT IT'S TIME TO CHANGE AMERICA'S DIRECTION -- TO STOP BORROWING FROM OUR FUTURE AND START BUILDING OUR FUTURE ... TO STOP LOOKING BACK AND START LOOKING AHEAD.

THE MESSAGE I HEAR ~~/~~ IS THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT
NEW LEADERSHIP -- THE LEADERSHIP OF FRITZ MONDALE AS PRESIDENT
AND GERRY FERRARO AS VICE-PRESIDENT. //

* * *

THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION IS OUT OF TOUCH WITH
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND OUT OF STEP WITH THE AMERICAN
TRADITION.

EVERY PRESIDENT SINCE FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT HAS
BELIEVED IN HIS HEART IN SOCIAL SECURITY // BUT NOT
RONALD REAGAN. //

EVERY PRESIDENT SINCE TEDDY ROOSEVELT HAS
PROTECTED AMERICA'S ENVIRONMENT FOR TOMORROW INSTEAD
OF EXPLOITING IT FOR TODAY // BUT NOT RONALD REAGAN.

EVERY PRESIDENT SINCE JOHN KENNEDY AND
LYNDON JOHNSON HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT AN INVESTMENT IN
EDUCATION ~~IS~~ ^{IS} AN INVESTMENT IN OUR FUTURE. BUT NOT
RONALD REAGAN.

EVERY PRESIDENT SINCE WOODROW WILSON --
WHO ADVANCED THE IDEA OF FARM PARITY -- HAS KNOWN THAT
OUR NATION CAN'T PROSPER IF FARMERS DON'T PROSPER.
BUT NOT RONALD REAGAN.

EVERY PRESIDENT WHO WAS IN TOUCH WITH THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE HAS CARED ABOUT THE AVERAGE
FAMILIES OF THIS ~~COUNTRY~~^{UNION} -- LIKE THE LOGGERS AND FISHERMAN
AND MACHINISTS OF WASHINGTON -- BUT NOT RONALD REAGAN.

AND NO PRESIDENT SINCE THE DAWN OF THE NUCLEAR
AGE HAS HAD A CAVALIER ATTITUDE ABOUT NUCLEAR WAR ---
UNTIL RONALD REAGAN.

THEY ~~MAY~~^{MAY} JOKE ABOUT NUCLEAR WAR IN THE WHITE
HOUSE, BUT OUR ALLIES IN EUROPE, OUR ADVERSARIES IN THE
SOVIET UNION AND OUR PEOPLE HERE AT HOME ARE ~~NOT~~ NOT
LAUGHING.

THE ~~AMERICAN~~^{AMERICAN} PEOPLE DON'T WANT BAD JOKES
ABOUT WAR. THEY WANT SERIOUS PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DON'T WANT A NEW ARMS
RACE IN SPACE. THEY WANT TO END THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE
HERE ON EARTH.

AND IF THIS ADMINISTRATION CAN'T STOP
EXCHANGING INSULTS AND START EXCHANGING NEGOTIATING
PROPOSALS, THEN IT'S TIME TO EXCHANGE THIS ADMINISTRATION
FOR ONE THAT WILL.

* * * *

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE TROUBLED BY
SOMETHING ELSE IN 1984. THEY'RE TROUBLED BECAUSE
WE'RE CHEATING ON ANOTHER PART OF AMERICA'S LEGACY.
THE PRINCIPLE OF FAIRNESS.

WHEN AN ECONOMIC PROGRAM IS BUILT ON
THROWING PEOPLE OUT OF WORK FIRST AND THEN FINANCING
A RECOVERY WITH HUGE DEFICITS NEXT, IS THAT PLAYING
FAIR?

WHEN SIX MILLION MORE PEOPLE SLIDE INTO
POVERTY SINCE THIS ADMINISTRATION TOOK OFFICE BUT
THEY CALL THE RECOVERY A SUCCESS, IS THAT PLAYING
FAIR?

WHEN
OUR GOVERNMENT TRIES TO SUPPORT SEGREGATED
SCHOOLS WITH OUR TAX DOLLARS, BUT CUTS LOANS TO SEND
OUR CHILDREN TO COLLEGE, IS THAT PLAYING FAIR?

WHEN SOCIAL SECURITY FOR OUR OLDER AMERICANS
IS SEEN AS RIPE FOR PICKING, BUT NINETY SIX HUNDRED
DOLLAR AIR FORCE WRENCHES COME AS A BIG SURPRISE, IS
THAT FAIR?

WELL, I DON'T THINK SO EITHER.

I BELIEVE AMERICANS WANT THEIR GOVERNMENT TO PLAY BY ONE SET OF RULES FOR EVERYBODY.

AMERICANS WANT PROSPERITY, BUT NOT JUST FOR SOME. THEY WANT A PROSPERITY THAT IS SHARED BY ALL.

AMERICANS WANT THE STRONGEST DEFENSE IN THE WORLD, BUT THEY ALSO KNOW THAT IT MUST BE BUILT ON THE MOST COMPETITIVE ECONOMY IN THE WORLD.

AND AMERICANS WANT THEIR LEADERS TO STOP TALKING GIBBERISH AND START TALKING SENSE ABOUT WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO BRING THESE RUNAWAY DEFICITS UNDER CONTROL. //

WE'VE HAD EVERYTHING BUT STRAIGHT TALK FROM THIS ADMINISTRATION ABOUT HOW THEY'RE GOING TO BRING THESE ^{DOLLAR} 200 BILLION DEFICITS UNDER CONTROL.

INSTEAD WHAT WE'VE HAD IS THE FIRST TWO DEBATES OF THE 1984 CAMPAIGN.

FIRST, MR. REAGAN DEBATED MR. BUSH. MR. REAGAN SAID THEY WOULDN'T RAISE TAXES. MR. BUSH SAID THEY MAY.

IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE I'M PARTIAL TO VICE-PRESIDENTS,
NOW IN THAT DEBATE, I BELIEVE MR. BUSH. BUT

THEN MR. REAGAN DEBATED MR. REAGAN.
HE SAID THAT WHILE HE HAS NO PLANS TO RAISE TAXES,
HE MIGHT ANYWAY.

NOW IN THAT DEBATE, I DON'T KNOW WHO
TO BELIEVE.

WHY ALL THE DANCING AROUND? AMERICANS
KNOW HOW TO ADD AND SUBTRACT. IF DEFICITS ARE BAD
FOR INTEREST RATES AND TRADE, THEN LET'S REDUCE
THEM. IF REDUCING DEFICITS ~~TAKES~~ ^{TAKES} MORE TAXES, THEN
LET'S RAISE THEM. AND IF OUR LEADERS WON'T LEVEL
WITH US, THEN LET'S REPLACE THEM.

AND BY THE WAY, WHEN THE REPUBLICANS GET
DONE DEBATING THEMSELVES, I WANT THEM TO DEBATE
US -- MONDALE AGAINST REAGAN AND FERRARO AGAINST
BUSH.

LET'S DEBATE AMERICA'S FUTURE. AND I BELIEVE
WASHINGTONIANS WANT THAT DEBATE TO BEGIN. FOR IF
THERE IS A STATE IN THE UNION THAT LOOKS TO THE
FUTURE, IT IS THIS STATE.

BECAUSE WASHINGTONIANS UNDERSTAND SOMETHING
THIS ADMINISTRATION DOESN'T: IT'S NOT RIGHT TO
BETRAY THE LEGACY OF OUR PARENTS BY BREAKING THE
PROMISE TO OUR CHILDREN.

IT'S NOT RIGHT. ~~THE AMERICAN PEOPLE KNOW~~
IT'S NOT RIGHT. AND THAT'S WHY ON NOVEMBER 6TH
THEY WILL REJECT THE POLICIES OF BUY NOW AND PAY
LATER, ~~OF~~ ARM NOW AND NEGOTIATE LATER, OF RHETORIC
FOR SCHOOLS NOW AND EXCELLENCE FOR SCHOOLS LATER,
~~OF~~ BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENTS NOW AND BALANCED
BUDGETS LATER.

THE TIME TO BUILD IS NOT LATER. IT IS NOW.

THE TIME TO PUT ALL AMERICANS BACK TO WORK IS
NOT LATER, IT IS NOW.

THE TIME FOR PAY EQUITY FOR WOMEN IS NOT LATER,
IT IS NOW.

AND THE TIME TO STOP THE ARMS RACE IS NOT
LATER, IT IS NOW.

WILL YOU HELP US?

WILL YOU WORK HARD BETWEEN NOW AND ELECTION DAY?

* * * * *

I KNOW YOU WILL.

I LOVE YOU FOR COMING.

I LOVE YOUR ENTHUSIASM.

NOW LET'S GO ON TO WIN ON NOVEMBER 6TH.