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Camden Rally Speech

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CAMDEN RALLY

THANK YOU, JIM (REP. FLORIO), FOR THAT WONDERFUL INTRODUCTION.

IT'S JUST GREAT TO BE HERE. LET ME TELL YOU, I'VE GOT A SPECIAL FEELING ABOUT NEW JERSEY THIS YEAR. THIS IS OUR YEAR, AND WE'RE GOING TO WIN. //

THE SAME PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT MAYOR PRIMA'S CAMPAIGN FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT HERE IN CAMDEN / AREN'T ABOUT TO FORGIVE A PRESIDENT WHO ABANDONED AMERICA'S GREAT CITIES. /

THE SAME PEOPLE WHO SEND JIM FLORIO TO CONGRESS TO FIGHT FOR A CLEANER, SAFER ENVIRONMENT / AREN'T ABOUT TO IGNORE THE RECORD OF A PRESIDENT WHO REFUSES TO CLEAN UP TOXIC WASTE DUMPS. /

THE SAME PEOPLE WHO ELECTED FRANK LAUTENBERG / -- A MAN WHO SPEND HIS LIFE CREATING JOBS AND WORRYING ABOUT THE COLOR OF THE INK ON THE BOTTOM LINE / AREN'T ABOUT TO BELIEVE THAT \$180 BILLION DEFICITS DON'T MATTER. /

AND THE SAME PEOPLE WHO ELECTED BILL BRADLEY -- AND WILL AGAIN THIS YEAR / -- AREN'T ABOUT TO TOLERATE THE UNFAIR TAX POLICIES OF THIS PRESIDENT. /

NEW JERSEYANS ARE GOING TO TURN OUT IN RECORD NUMBERS. AND YOU'RE GOING TO VOTE AND ELECT FRITZ MONDALE AND GERRY FERRARO IN 1984. /

LAST WEEK, WHEN THE REPUBLICANS MET IN DALLAS, ALL THEY COULD TALK ABOUT WAS 1980. IT WAS AS IF THE WHOLE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION WERE LOCKED IN A TIME MACHINE WHICH ONLY WENT BACKWARDS.

Let me say this: I don't think I need to go any further back than I DON'T THINK AMERICANS WANT TO DEBATE 1980. THAT'S THE PAST. THEY WANT TO MOVE TO 1990 AND THE FUTURE.

for Pres. Carter who applied more hands, and women & husbands to the president

learned

WHICH FUTURE WE WILL HAVE DEPENDS ON WHAT CHOICE WE MAKE IN NOVEMBER. MR. REAGAN SAID THAT THIS ELECTION GIVES THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THE CLEAREST POLITICAL CHOICE IN FIFTY YEARS. AND HE'S DEAD RIGHT. IN FACT, THERE ARE FOUR CRITICAL CHOICES.

FIRST, WE FACE A CHOICE ON WAR AND PEACE. IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS, TENSIONS WITH RUSSIA HAVE RISEN; WE'VE SENT TROOPS TO CENTRAL AMERICA; AND OUR ~~BOYS~~ ^{young men} HAVE DIED IN BEIRUT. THE QUESTION IS, OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS, WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY SON JOHN -- AND TO YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN? WILL THIS PRESIDENT, UNRESTRAINED BY THE NEED FOR REELECTION, HEIGHTEN THE RISK OF WAR?

I DON'T WANT TO TAKE THAT CHANCE. I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO EXCHANGES PROPOSALS, NOT INSULTS, WITH THE SOVIET UNION; WHO UNDERSTANDS THAT AN ARMS RACE DOES NOT LEAD TO PEACE -- IT LEADS TO AN ARMS RACE; AND WHO DOES EVERYTHING HE CAN TO FREEZE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND REDUCE THE RISK OF NUCLEAR WAR.

In fact I want a Pres who spends less on the arms race & more on the human race.

This President says America is back and standing tall. I say, that won't happen until we support urban programs and cities like Camden are also back and standing tall.

don't think the economy has recovered until the workers of Camden recover the jobs.

SECOND, WE FACE A CHOICE BETWEEN PROSPERITY AND BANKRUPTCY. *The President boasts of an economic recovery. But*
IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS, MR. REAGAN HAS PILED UP THE LARGEST DEFICITS IN OUR HISTORY. HE HAS ADDED MORE TO THE FEDERAL DEBT THAN ALL PREVIOUS PRESIDENTS COMBINED. AND THESE DEFICITS HAVE GIVEN US THE HIGHEST REAL INTEREST RATES IN HISTORY, PUMMELED TRADE, DEVASTATED FARMERS, AND HURT SMALL BUSINESS AND AVERAGE FAMILIES TRYING TO BUY HOUSES AND CARS.

THE QUESTION IS, CAN WE TAKE CHARGE OF OUR OWN ECONOMIC FUTURE? WILL WE EVER SEE AFFORDABLE INTEREST RATES AGAIN? WILL OUR PRODUCTS BE ABLE TO COMPETE WITH FOREIGN PRODUCTS? OR ARE WE DOOMED TO AN AIMLESS ECONOMIC POLICY THAT LEADS THIS NATION TOWARD DECLINE?

REDUCING DEFICITS IS POSSIBLE, BUT IT TAKES CANDOR. THIS ADMINISTRATION HASN'T LEVELED WITH AMERICANS, AND PEOPLE KNOW IT. FIRST, MR. REAGAN SAID HE WOULDN'T RAISE TAXES. THEN MR. BUSH SAID THEY WOULD. THEN MR. REAGAN SAID THAT WHILE HE HAD NO PLANS TO RAISE TAXES, HE MIGHT. AND NOW THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM PROMISES ANOTHER 160 BILLION DOLLARS IN TAX RELIEF FOR REAGAN'S RICH FRIENDS.

LET'S CUT ~~OUT~~ THE CONFUSION. AMERICANS EXPECT STRAIGHT TALK FROM THEIR LEADERS. THEY KNOW THAT NO MATTER WHO IS ELECTED IN NOVEMBER, TAXES WILL GO UP. THE QUESTION IS, WHO WILL RAISE THEM AND WHO WILL PAY THEM.

BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED. INSTEAD, THE PEOPLE IN THE TOP INCOME BRACKET MOVED UP. / THOSE IN THE NEXT HIGHEST BRACKET STAYED ABOUT WHERE THEY WERE. / AND THE NEXT THREE BRACKETS -- CONTAINING 60 PERCENT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE -- ALL LOST GROUND. / ALTOGETHER, REAGAN'S POLICIES TRANSFERRED \$25 BILLION TO THE RICHEST FIFTH OF OUR SOCIETY. /

THAT'S AN OUTRAGE. WE WANT A PRESIDENT WHO WILL STAND UP FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS AND HELP AVERAGE FAMILIES PAY THEIR BILLS, / SEND KIDS TO COLLEGE, / BUY HOUSES, / AND GET AHEAD IN LIFE. / ~~THAT'S NOT WHAT WE HAVE TODAY.~~

This President says he wants government off our back. I want government to stand by our side.

IF THE PRESIDENT PLANS TO ASK PEOPLE IF THEY'RE BETTER OFF THAN THEY WERE FOUR YEARS AGO, / HE BETTER STICK TO ASKING HIS FRIENDS. / THEY'RE BETTER OFF, / BUT ~~WE'RE~~ ^{we're} NOT. / COME NEXT JANUARY, WE'LL BE BETTER OFF, BECAUSE HE'LL BE OUT OF OFFICE.

FINALLY, WE FACE A CHOICE ABOUT WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE WE WILL BE. / WILL WE HAVE COMPASSION, / WILL WE LEND A HAND, / WILL WE HONOR OUR OBLIGATIONS TO FELLOW CITIZENS IN NEED? /

IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS, / FIVE MILLION AMERICANS HAVE JOINED THE RANKS OF THE POOR. / ^{and} EIGHT A HALF MILLION AMERICANS ARE OUT OF WORK. / AND ONE OUT OF FOUR SMALL CHILDREN LIVES IN POVERTY. / THE RESPONSE OF THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION TO THIS HUMAN DISASTER HAS BEEN TO CUT FOOD STAMPS, / THROW PEOPLE OFF SOCIAL SECURITY, / MAKE MEDICARE RECIPIENTS PAY MORE, / AND REDUCE NEARLY EVERY SINGLE PROGRAM THAT HELPS POOR MOTHERS AND INFANTS. MY QUESTION TO MR. REAGAN IS, WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE DOES HE THINK WE ARE?

I AM NOT SEEKING THE VICE PRESIDENCY SO THAT I CAN HELP MAKE IT HARDER FOR THE HUNGRY TO EAT, THE COLD TO KEEP WARM, AND THE HOMELESS TO FIND SHELTER. I GOT INTO POLITICS IN THE FIRST PLACE SO I COULD HELP THE DISADVANTAGED -- NOT HARM THEM. AND THE BEST WAY YOU AND I CAN HELP THEM IN 1984 IS TO DEFEAT RONALD REAGAN AND ELECT WALTER MONDALE.

THESE ARE THE FOUR CHOICES WE FACE. THE STAKES ARE HIGH THIS FALL -- HIGHER THAN THEY HAVE BEEN IN YEARS. WILL WE BE A SAFER NATION OR NOT; WILL WE BE PROSPEROUS OR NOT; WILL THE BARRIERS COME DOWN AND THE DOORS OPEN UP FOR ALL AMERICANS OR NOT; WILL WE BE A CARING, COMPASSIONATE PEOPLE OR NOT -- THOSE ARE THE ISSUES AT STAKE IN 1984.

THE CHOICES IN THIS ELECTION ARE PROFOUND. WE NEED YOUR HELP. WITH THE DEFEAT OF RONALD REAGAN WE BRING AN END TO THE DANGEROUS, DIVISIVE COURSE WE'RE ON. WITH THE ELECTION OF WALTER MONDALE RESTS OUR HOPE FOR A BETTER AMERICA.

THAT CAUSE -- OUR COUNTRY'S CAUSE -- IS WHAT FINALLY UNITES US. THE REPUBLICANS MADE MUCH OF THEIR PATRIOTISM IN DALLAS. BUT I DON'T THINK THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BUY THE SELF-CONSCIOUS PATRIOTISM MADE ON MADISON AVENUE. THEY FEEL THE SELFLESS PATRIOTISM OF MAIN STREET AMERICA.

WHEN SOMEONE FINDS JOBS FOR THE 17,000 JOBLESS IN CARDEN -- THAT WILL BE A PATRIOTIC ACT.

WHEN WE PROVIDE TEACHERS THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO EDUCATE

OUR CHILDREN -- THAT WILL BE A PATRIOTIC ACT.

WHEN WE FINALLY STOP THE ARMS RACE -- THAT WILL BE
A PATRIOTIC ACT.

WHEN ALL OF US WORK SO THAT AMERICAN LIVES ARE NOT
LOST BECAUSE THE PEACE IS NOT BROKEN -- THAT IS A PATRIOTIC
ACT.

WHEN WE FULLY ENFORCE OUR CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS -- THAT'S
A PATRIOTIC ACT.

AND WHEN WE FINALLY GIVE WOMEN EQUAL RIGHTS AND
MAKE THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT A PART OF THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTION -- THAT WILL BE A PATRIOTIC ACT.

MR. REAGAN PREACHES LOVE OF COUNTRY, AND I AGREE.
BUT I SAY, LET'S LOVE OUR COUNTRYMEN AND WOMEN, TOO. LET'S HELP
FARMERS, THE UNEMPLOYED, THE YOUNG, AND THE OLD. LET'S PUT PEOPLE
TO WORK AND KEEP THE PEACE. THAT'S THE BEST WAY TO HONOR THE
AMERICAN FLAG.

THIS IS THE DIRECTION THAT POINTS TO A STRONGER FUTURE.
THE TIME TO BEGIN THAT JOURNEY IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO BE FAIR IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO HELP AVERAGE AMERICANS IS NOT LATER. IT'S
NOW.