

8-13-1984

Letter from Dr. Fritz K.H. Bauer, Editor of Fur Sie, to Geraldine Ferraro

Fritz K. H. Bauer

Geraldine Ferraro

Fur Sie

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FÜR SIE

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To: Patricia Baric
Press secretary of
Ms. Geraldine Ferraro
or deputy

From: Fritz K.H. Bauer, Ph.D.
Editor FÜR SIE

At: August 13, 1984

Subj.: Request for an interview with Ms. Ferraro as per our
telefax letter of Aug. 6, 1984, and asked for in several
telephone calls since mid of July

Dear Pat,

please allow me to refer to our letter of Aug. 6, which was sent
by telefax according to the request of Mr. Mondale's staff and
addressed to Mr. Mondale's press secretary Maxine Isaacs.

As we did not get any answer until last Friday, we called both
your office and Ms. Ferraro's congressional office (Marsha). The
only advise we got was the proposal to send the questions we would
like to ask during that interview in writing - which we do right
now.

Although a written answer cannot be compared with our original
intention, we would appreciate very much a written reply, which
can be returned by using our telefax number [REDACTED].

We know that we will have a hard time mobilizing additional votes
for the democratic ticket here in Germany. But as Ms. Ferraro's
career is far from being important only for the U.S., we hope you
will cooperate with one of Germany's leading women magazines - more
than that: we trust in it.

Yours truly

Fritz Bauer
Redaktion FÜR SIE
Hamburg, Western Germany

P.S. The questions are following right away.

FÜR SIE questions to ask Ms. Ferraro:

- You were in favor of perishing two and the new nuclear powered trident submarines. You support the policy of strong defense - but also substantial cut backs in military spending. Furthermore you voted in favor of the MX missile when Jimmy Carter was president and against them recently under Ronald Reagan. What should Europeans think about these obvious contradictions, as we rely on the American willingness to defend our freedom?
- You will remember those cases, where German women demonstrated before American barracks, even performing something to be called a blockade. They did it because they doubt the deterrence symbolized by nuclear missiles like perishing two. Do you have sympathy with the women outside or with the soldiers inside the barracks?
- In German politics one top issue is to decide about the integrations of women into the armed forces. Women here are soldiers in a voluntary basis. What advice can you give us - how shall we proceed?
- You are a mother of three grown up kids. During the last ten years you for sure have not been able to spend as much time with them as you would have liked. And earlier than that - while teaching and going to law school at night - the situation was similar. How do you manage household and job, kids and your marriage under these circumstances?
- What do you think will be able to do in order to carry women away from the two big K's, kids and kitchen, and register to vote?
- Do women have to be better than men in order to obtain a certain position and stay there? Isn't it true that women still aren't equal with men regardless of the constitution?
- Something just goes through my mind. Do you think the case of anchorwomen Christine Craft - you remember, the lady considered to be too old for her job by her superiors - was somewhat unique? If not, why does nobody ask how old male anchor persons are allowed to be? Is not knowledge and sovereignty the key rather than sex and age?
- How would you prescribe your strength, your strong point - and do you see some weaknesses, too, you would like to mention?
- What are you doing in order to stay as fit as you need to be in your position?
- Most people want to be like someone else - can you tell us, who that in your case?
- And finally one different question: how would you like to define happiness?

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.

Pat Davis

received

8-13-84
8:30am

FÜR SIE questions to ask MA. Ferraro:

- ✓ - You're not the first American woman who became VP candidate - that was Angela Davies in '80 - but you're the first woman being nominated by one of the two big parties. Do you believe this to be a solely symbolic act to get more democratic votes from women?
- ✓ - If you are right with your assumption that your nomination is changing the role of women in society, how do you see this effect? Will each female student, lets say in 5th grade, be able to say "I can become the president of the U.S., if I only work hard enough for it"?
- Women in top political positions are nothing really new - Great Britain, Israel, India and Sri Lanka are good examples. However, neither Margreth Thatcher nor Indira Gandhi, Golda Meir nor Mrs. Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka brought a specific female element into politics. Do you agree with this - and what will you do to change it? Shouldn't mothers have a special understanding, for instance, of defense and war?
- ✓ - Isn't it so, that within American politics female careers are possible - Nancy Kassebaum, Elizabeth Dole and Martha Layne Collins are just a few examples - but it seems only with women of a certain financial background. You are fortunate enough to be married to a successful man. What about talented and capable women, who are not so fortunate? Does the American dream allow them the same possibilities?
- Does your nomination as a vice president candidate also have a sideeffect in the rest of the western world - for instance in Europe? In other words: when you - as VP - one time will visit Western Germany, can you imagine to be greeted by a female vice chancellor and foreign secretary?
- It seems that all the women in America want to copy your hair-style since they came to know ^{you} through tv. But it seems that most of them know much less about your political views. Can you tell us something of the issues you feel most strongly about?
- You are a practising catholic and should be against abortion - like the pope under all circumstances. But you are in favor of women's choices. How do you explain this?
- Rumours tell, foreign relations are not your strong part - at least they were not in the past. May I ask you what you think about German women besides reforming to the "Fräuleinwunder"-philosophy? Are German women different from American according to your knowledge? And do you already know some German women a little bit closer?