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Cincinnati Rally Speech

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CINCINNATI, OHIO

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1984

I WANT TO THANK YOUR GREAT GOVERNOR, DICK CELESTE, FOR THAT INTRODUCTION. I'VE BEEN TO OHIO MANY TIMES SINCE OUR CONVENTION, AND EACH TIME I FEEL MORE AT HOME THANKS TO DICK AND DAGMAR. BECAUSE OF ALL THE HELP THEY'VE GIVEN US, I'VE GOT A GOOD FEELING ABOUT THIS STATE. / I THINK WE'RE GOING TO WIN IT. //

BUT LET ME TAKE MY OWN SCIENTIFIC, OBJECTIVE SURVEY HERE TODAY.

ARE WE GOING TO WIN IN NOVEMBER?

ARE WE GOING TO SEND FRITZ MONDALE TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND RONALD REAGAN BACK TO THE RANCH?

YOU BET WE ARE.

THIS ELECTION IS NOT A DUEL BETWEEN PERSONALITIES. / YOU CAN LIKE RONALD REAGAN, / BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO VOTE FOR HIM. //

MR. REAGAN MAY BE CHARMING, FUNNY, AND PLEASANT. BUT THERE'S NOTHING CHARMING ABOUT THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA. / THERE'S NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT TOXIC WASTE THAT CAUSES CANCER. / AND THERE'S NOTHING PLEASANT ABOUT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND MINORITIES.

WE NEED TO LOOK BEYOND THE PERSONALITIES TO SEE THE FOUR GREAT ISSUES FACING US IN THIS ELECTION.

FIRST / WE FACE A CHOICE ABOUT EDUCATION. / AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT EDUCATION UNLOCKS THE DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY. WE KNOW THAT TO GET AHEAD, YOU HAVE TO GET AN EDUCATION.

BUT WHERE WE SEE A NEED TO INVEST IN THE PROMISE OF OUR YOUTH. / RONALD REAGAN HAS CUT SCHOOL AID AND SLASHED PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING.

RONALD REAGAN WANTS TO SEND A TEACHER INTO SPACE, BUT I SAY WE HAVE TO HELP OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS HERE ON EARTH.

SECOND, WE FACE A CHOICE ABOUT PERSONAL FREEDOM. ~~AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT FREEDOM TO CHOOSE IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR WAY OF LIFE.~~ BUT THE EXTREMISTS WHO CONTROL THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WOULD IMPOSE A RELIGIOUS TEST ON FEDERAL JUDGES, AND PUT THE GOVERNMENT BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR MOST PERSONAL CHOICES.

WALTER MONDALE AND I WILL KEEP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND OUT OF OUR HOMES, OUR CHURCHES, AND OUR SYNAGOGUES.

I WANT THE SUPREME COURT CHOSEN BY WALTER MONDALE, NOT JERRY FALWELL.

THIRD, WE FACE A CHOICE ABOUT PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT. WE WON'T HAVE ANY KIND OF FUTURE WITHOUT THIS PLANET. WE HAVE TO KEEP OUR LAND, OUR CHILDREN, AND OUR LIVES FREE FROM TOXIC WASTES. TOO MANY AMERICANS ALREADY MUST WORRY ABOUT THE AIR THEY BREATHE, THE WATER THEY DRINK, AND THE LAND THEY OWN.

THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS TURNED ITS BACK ON THEM. THEY LEFT TOXIC WASTE DUMPS UNCLEARED, AND FAILED TO HELP LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS REMOVE ASBESTOS FROM SOME 33,000 PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

REMEMBER, THIS IS THE ADMINISTRATION THAT GAVE US JAMES WATT ONCE, AND ANNE BURFORD TWICE.

THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT UNDER PRESIDENT MONDALE. HE WILL ENFORCE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS. HE WILL REBUILD THE EPA. HE WILL USE THE SUPERFUND TO CLEAN UP THE MOST DANGEROUS TOXIC DUMPS. AND HE'LL MAKE THE POLLUTERS PAY FOR THE CLEAN UP.

I SAY WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION THAT TAKES POLLUTERS TO COURT, AND NOT TO LUNCH.

AND, FINALLY, WE FACE A CHOICE ABOUT THE MOST SERIOUS ISSUE BEFORE US: WAR AND PEACE. THERE'S NO GREATER AMERICAN PRINCIPLE THAN PEACE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT LIVING UP TO THAT MEANS ENDING THE ARMS RACE.

PRESIDENT REAGAN IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE HOOVER NOT TO MEET WITH HIS SOVIET COUNTERPART. HE IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE THE DAWN OF THE NUCLEAR AGE NOT TO SIGN AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT.

I SAY WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL CALL ON THE SOVIET LEADER TO NEGOTIATE ON HIS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE, NOT ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

ARMS CONTROL IS CRUCIAL, BUT WE MUST DO MORE. OUR SECURITY DEPENDS ON SUPPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS ABROAD. I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO UNDERSTANDS THAT WHEN WE PRESS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WE STRENGTHEN OUR OWN COUNTRY. I WANT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT STOPS TOASTING DICTATORS AND STARTS FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY.

THOSE ARE THE BASIC PRINCIPLES. BUT TO BUILD OUR FUTURE, WE MUST DO IT TOGETHER. DIVIDING US INTO HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS WON'T STRENGTHEN THIS COUNTRY.

EVERY TIME WE LOWER A BARRIER, OUR NATION IS STRONGER. EVERY TIME WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TALENTS THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY EXCLUDED, OUR NATION IS RICHER.

WALTER MONDALE AND I WILL BUILD AN AMERICA THAT JUDGES PEOPLE NOT BY THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN, BUT BY THE CONTENT OF THEIR CHARACTER.

WE ALSO WANT A COUNTRY THAT KEEPS FAITH WITH WOMEN. WHEN I TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR MY SECOND TERM AS VICE PRESIDENT, I WANT TO SWEAR TO UPHOLD A CONSTITUTION THAT INCLUDES THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED IN THESE PRINCIPLES. BUT RECENTLY IT SEEMS LIKE WE HAVE ANOTHER NEW CONVERT. RONALD REAGAN HAS BEEN RIDING HARRY TRUMAN'S TRAIN. A FEW WEEKS AGO, HE TOOK PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S PULLMAN CAR OUT OF A MUSEUM TO TRY AND RECREATE THAT PRESIDENT'S FAMOUS WHISTLE-STOP TOUR OF 1948.

THAT TRAIN STUNT DIDN'T FOOL ANYONE. BUT THINK ABOUT IT. WHAT BETTER SYMBOL COULD RONALD REAGAN GIVE US OF HIS ADMINISTRATION: THERE HE WAS, FACING BACKWARDS, WITHOUT A CLUE ABOUT WHO WAS AT THE CONTROLS, OR IN WHAT DIRECTION HE WAS GOING.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT: WE'RE IN A FIGHT FOR THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS COUNTRY. MAKE NO MISTAKE: AS DEMOCRATS, WE'RE GOING TO WIN THAT FIGHT.

THINK ABOUT IT. / IF PEOPLE WANT TO EXTEND THE ARMS RACE INTO SPACE AND RETREAT FROM HUMAN RIGHTS / THEY SHOULD VOTE FOR RONALD REAGAN. / BUT IF THEY WANT TO STOP THE ARMS RACE, PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT, PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY, REDUCE THESE DEFICITS, AND PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS, THEN THEY SHOULD VOTE FOR WALTER MONDALE.

THESE GOALS ARE IMPORTANT, BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT ARE THE THINGS WE CARE ABOUT AS A NATION. / WE CARE ABOUT PEACE / WE CARE ABOUT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. / AND THE ONE THING OUR OPPONENTS JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND / IS THAT WE CARE ABOUT EACH OTHER. /

WE ALSO CARE ABOUT HAVING THE COURAGE TO STAND UP FOR WHAT WE BELIEVE. / WALTER MONDALE PROVED THAT HE HAD THAT COURAGE WHEN HE ASKED ME TO BE HIS RUNNING MATE. / BY THAT ONE ACTION HE DID MORE FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN A SINGLE DAY THAN RONALD REAGAN HAS DONE IN FOUR LONG YEARS.

THINK OF WHAT THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WOULD BE LIKE IF RONALD REAGAN WERE RE-ELECTED. / THEN, / THINK OF WHAT OUR FUTURE COULD BE LIKE WITH WALTER MONDALE AS PRESIDENT.

WE'RE NOW IN THE HOME STRETCH OF THIS CAMPAIGN. / WE'RE NOT ONLY GOING TO WIN / WE ARE GOING TO PROVE THAT AMERICANS ARE NOT A SELFISH, SELF-SATISFIED PEOPLE.

WE ARE GOING TO SHOW THAT THE ARMS RACE CAN BE CONTROLLED / AND THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR WAR CAN BE REDUCED.

WE ARE GOING TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE CAN ONCE AGAIN MAKE THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AMERICA'S CAUSE.

WE ARE GOING TO PROVE TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED,
TO ALL THOSE LEFT BEHIND BY PROSPERITY, AND TO ALL THOSE COUNTED
OUT BEFORE THEIR TALENTS WERE ADDED UP, THAT TOGETHER WE CAN
SHARE THE PROMISE OF AMERICA.

*that the polls
are wrong!!*

AND WE'RE GOING TO PROVE ONE MORE THING, WHILE SOME PEOPLE
SAY THIS ELECTION CANNOT BE WON. I SAY IT CAN BE. I SAY IT MUST
BE. AND I SAY, WITH YOUR HELP, IT WILL BE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

-- END --