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San Francisco Rally Speech

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1984

THANK YOU, DIANE, FOR THAT FINE INTRODUCTION.

IT'S ALWAYS GREAT TO BE BACK IN THE HOME STATE OF THE NEXT EX-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THIS IS MY SEVENTH VISIT TO CALIFORNIA. I KEEP COMING BACK FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, WE LOVE CALIFORNIA. AND SECOND, WE'RE GOING TO WIN THIS ELECTION AND WE'RE GOING TO WIN IT WITH CALIFORNIA.

WELL, THE POLLSTERS AND THE PUNDITS HAVE REALLY BEEN GOING AT IT LATELY. BUT LET'S HELP THEM OUT WITH SOME OTHER QUESTIONS. I'M GOING TO TAKE MY OWN SCIENTIFIC, OBJECTIVE SURVEY HERE TONIGHT.

ARE WE GOING TO WIN ON TUESDAY?

ARE WE GOING TO SEND WALTER 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. 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.

FOURTH, 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.

LOWERING NUCLEAR STOCKPILES IS NECESSARY, BUT IT IS NOT ENOUGH. WE MUST ALSO LOWER TENSIONS AROUND THE WORLD. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS ADMINISTRATION IS DOING LITTLE TO EASE PROBLEMS IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

THEY ARE MILITARIZING A SITUATION WHICH SHOULD BE SETTLED BY PEACEFUL MEANS, AND THEY ARE AMERICANIZING A CONFLICT THAT IS PRIMARILY LOCAL. I SAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. WE MUST STOP THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA.

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.

I ALSO WANT A PRESIDENT COMMITTED TO ENDING HUNGER AND PREVENTING STARVATION. RIGHT NOW, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE ARE DYING EACH DAY IN ETHIOPIA. WE HAVE ALL SEEN THE TRAGIC PICTURES AND FELT BAD, BUT THAT'S NOT ENOUGH.

WORLD GRAIN PRODUCTION IS UP AND OUR STOREHOUSES ARE PACKED WITH GRAIN. THAT IS NOT ONLY WASTEFUL, IT IS INDECENT.

NOW, THIS ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES A PLAN FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF. BUT THE PROBLEM ISN'T NEW, AND THEY STILL CUT BACK ON FOOD FOR PEACE BY NEARLY 700 MILLION DOLLARS. THEY DIDN'T ACT WHEN EVERYONE SAW THE PROBLEM DEVELOP, AND NOW WE ARE FACED WITH A TRAGEDY.

I WANT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT SENDS OTHER COUNTRIES FEWER TOOLS FOR WAR, AND MORE FOOD FOR PEACE.

THOSE ARE THE FOUR 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 OTHER DAY, MR. REAGAN TOLD A NEWSPAPER THAT THE
SELECTION OF A WOMAN TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR THE VICE PRESIDENCY OF
THE UNITED STATES "WASN'T THAT BIG A MOVE."

NOW THAT COMMENT SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT THIS PRESIDENT.

RONALD REAGAN SIMPLY DOESN'T UNDERSTAND.

WHEN FRITZ MONDALE TORE DOWN THAT RUSTY, 200-HEAR-OLD "FOR
MEN ONLY" SIGN ON THE DOOR TO THE HIGHEST OFFICES OF THIS LAND,
THAT MOVE WAS HISTORIC AND IT WAS BOLD.

IT WAS A MOVE THAT SAID TO EVERY WOMAN IN THIS COUNTRY:
THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN'T ACHIEVE IN AMERICA.

IT WAS A MOVE THAT SAID TO EVERY PARENT IN THIS COUNTRY --
MEN AND WOMEN: YOUR DAUGHTERS CAN HAVE THE SAME DREAMS AS YOUR
SONS.

IT WAS A MOVE, MR. REAGAN, THAT IN ONE DRAMATIC MOMENT,
TRANSFORMED AMERICA.

AND IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT, MR. REAGAN, YOU BETTER
MOVE ASIDE, BECAUSE WE'RE NEVER TURNING BACK.

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.

WHAT YOU DIDN'T HEAR FROM REAGAN IS WHAT HARRY TRUMAN HAD TO SAY -- AND I QUOTE: "ANY FARMER WHO VOTES REPUBLICAN SHOULD HAVE HIS HEAD EXAMINED." AND I AGREE.

THE FACT IS, RONALD REAGAN HAS GIVEN FARMERS THE WORST FOUR YEARS SINCE THE DEPRESSION. NET FARM INCOME HAS DROPPED BY HALF. FARM EXPORTS HAVE COLLAPSED. FORECLOSURES HAVE TRIPLED, AND 300,000 FARM-RELATED JOBS HAVE BEEN LOST.

IN RESPONSE TO THAT SUFFERING, RONALD REAGAN SAYS, LET PROSPERITY "TRICKLE DOWN." WELL, EVEN SOMEONE FROM QUEENS KNOWS THAT CROPS GROW FROM THE GROUND UP.

WALTER MONDALE HAS BEEN A FRIEND OF FARMERS FOR AS LONG AS REAGAN HAS OPPOSED THEM. MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT: WALTER MONDALE WILL BE THE BEST PRESIDENT IOWA FARMERS EVER HAD.

YOU KNOW THAT. BUT WHAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW IS THAT IN 1982, THE FARMER'S UNION GAVE GERALDINE FERRARO A 100 PERCENT RATING ON HER VOTING RECORD. AND IN 1983, THEY GAVE ME 91 PERCENT. THAT AIN'T BAD FOR A CITY KID.

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.

IN FOUR SHORT DAYS, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL DECIDE THE DIRECTION OF OUR NATION FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS -- AND BEYOND.

NEXT TUESDAY, GALLUP AND HARRIS AND ALL THOSE OTHER POLLSTERS HAVE THE SAME ONE VOTE AS EACH ONE OF YOU.

AND I ASK YOU TODAY: THINK HARD ABOUT HOW YOU USE THAT PRECIOUS VOTE.

THE REAGAN PEOPLE SAY THEY WANT A MANDATE FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

BUT HAVE THEY TOLD YOU WHAT THEY PLAN TO DO WITH THAT MANDATE?

THEY HAVEN'T TOLD YOU, BUT I WILL.

FOUR MORE YEARS OF RONALD REAGAN MEANS SEVEN THOUSAND NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS, EACH HUNDREDS OF TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN THE HIROSHIMA BOMB, LOADED AND READY TO FIRE.

BUT IN FOUR MORE DAYS, YOU CAN DECIDE THAT ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. YOU CAN DECIDE TO RENEW OUR COMMITMENT TO STOP THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AND STEP BACK FROM THE NUCLEAR BRINK.

FOUR MORE YEARS OF RONALD REAGAN MEANS AS MUCH AS ONE TRILLION DOLLARS MORE IN U.S. DEBT -- \$5,000 FOR EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD IN AMERICA.

BUT IN FOUR MORE DAYS, YOU CAN DECIDE TO BRING THESE RUNAWAY DEFICITS UNDER CONTROL BEFORE THEIR ECONOMIC HOUSE OF CARDS COMES TUMBLING DOWN.

FOUR MORE YEARS MEANS A REAGAN SUPREME COURT THAT WILL WORK ITS WILL FOR AN ENTIRE GENERATION.

BUT IN FOUR MORE DAYS, YOU CAN DECIDE TO HAVE SUPREME COURT JUDGES SELECTED ON THE BASIS OF THEIR MERIT AND NOT HOW THEY DO ON THE RIGHT-WING LITMUS TESTS.

AND FOUR MORE YEARS OF RONALD REAGAN MEANS AN UNCHECKED COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA THAT ONE DAY MAY TURN THAT CENTRAL AMERICAN WAR INTO AN AMERICAN WAR.

BUT IN FOUR MORE DAYS, YOU CAN DECIDE TO END OUR COVERT INVOLVEMENT IN NICARAGUA, AND END IT NOW.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

FOUR YEARS OF DRIFT AND DANGER WITH RONALD REAGAN OR A FUTURE OF TACKLING AMERICA'S CHALLENGES WITH THE HONESTY AND COURAGE OF FRITZ MONDALE.

I ASK YOU TODAY: PULL THE LEVER FOR PEACE. RAISE YOUR VOICE FOR JOBS. SPEAK OUT FOR CLEAN AIR AND CLEAN WATER. VOTE FOR EQUALITY.

STAND UP IN THIS FIGHT OF THE CENTURY, AND VOTE FOR A BETTER FUTURE WITH WALTER MONDALE.

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 PEOPLE.

WE ARE GOING TO SHOW THAT THE ARMS RACE CAN AND MUST BE STOPPED.

WE ARE GOING TO DEMONSTRATE THAT AMERICANS BELIEVE IN HUMAN RIGHTS.

WE ARE GOING TO PROVE FOR WOMEN, FOR ALL WHO HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED, FOR ALL THOSE COUNTED OUT BEFORE THEIR TALENTS WERE ADDED UP, THAT IF WE CAN DO THIS, WE CAN DO ANYTHING.

AND WE'RE GOING TO PROVE ONE MORE THING: THE POLLS ARE WRONG. 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.