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Jersey City Rally Speech

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JOURNAL SQUARE -- JERSEY CITY. NEW JERSEY NOVEMBER 5. 1984

THANK YOU, SENATOR BRADLEY, FOR THAT TERRIFIC INTRODUCTION.

WHEN BILL BRADLEY PLAYED FOR THE KNICKS THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD MAKE THAT TEAM. BUT WHEN I'M VICE PRESIDENT, AND I'M FULFILLING, MY DUTIES AS PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, BILL BRADLEY AND I WILL BE ON THE SAME TEAM FIGHTING FOR THE WORKING MEN AND WOMEN OF THIS COUNTRY.

I'm also delighted to see Son. Frank Lautenberg, my colleague,

congressman Frank Guarini, purious Feggins.

YOU KNOW, I'M NOT SUPERSTITIOUS, BUT I HAVE TO SAY IT
THRILLED ME TO SEE AN ITALIAN AND A NORWEGIAN TAKING THE TOP
SPOTS IN THE NEW YORK MARATHON THE OTHER DAY. I GUESS IT'S JUST

THE POLLSTERS AND PUNDITS HAVE BEEN MAKING THEIR PREDICTIONS, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE THEM. SO I'M GOING TO TAKE MY

ARE HE GOING TO HIN TOMORROW?

OWN SCIENTIFIC, OBJECTIVE SURVEY.

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

w (

YEAR.

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 QUIL 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 UNCLEANED, 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.

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.

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.

I was in Silicon Valley in California two weeks ago, speaking to the employees of a computer company. And I told them what I want to say to you: when it comes to building a more competitive economy, we're all in this together.

AS THE WORKERS OF NEW JERSEY KNOW, WHEN ONE SEGMENT OF THE ECONOMY COLLAPSES, IT TAKES OTHER SEGMENTS DOWN WITH IT. WHEN ONE INDUSTRY IS IN TROUBLE, ALL INDUSTRIES ARE THREATENED. LET OTHERS TRY TO DIVIDE AMERICA REGION BY REGION. IN MY BOOK, IT'S NOT A COMPLETE RECOVERY UNTIL WORKERS EVERYWHERE HAVE RECOVERED THEIR JOBS.

RONALD REAGAN SAYS AMERICA IS BACK AND STANDING TALL. BUT MORE THAN 200,000 IN NEW JERSEY WANT WORK AND CAN'T FIND IT.

I SAY AMERICA IS NOT BACK AND STANDING TALL UNTIL THE WORKERS OF NEW JERSEY, THE STEELWORKERS OF PENNSYLVANA AND OHIO, AND THE FARMERS OF OUR COUNTRY ARE ALSO STANDING TALL.

WE CANNOT LEAVE ANY INDUSTRY OR REGION BEHIND, AND WE MUST NOT PREVENT ANY PERSON FROM SUCCEEDING. 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 WANT A COUNTRY THAT JUDGES PEOPLE NOT BY THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN, BUT BY THE CONTENT OF THEIR CHARACTER.

AND WE WANT A COUNTRY THAT KEEPS FAITH WITH WOMEN. WHEN I TAKE THE DATH 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 SAYS IT ALL ABOUT RONALD REAGAN.

AND IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, MR. REAGAN, THEN MOVE ASIDE, BECAUSE WE'RE NOT TURNING BACK.

It's a new world today. Women can choose to do anything.

And whatever that choice is, we want to be judged by the quality of our products. We aren't women doing men's jobs. We're women doing work.

WHEN I STARTED MY CAMPAIGN WALTER MONDALE SAID: "GERRY, JUST BE YOURSELF." HE HAS NEVER ASKED ME TO CHANGE MY STYLE. AND, THANK GOODNESS, HE DIDN'T ASK ME TO BE LIKE GEORGE BUSH.

AND I WISH MR. REAGAN WOULD STOP PRETENDING HE'S LIKE HARRY TRUMAN. RECENTLY, MR. REAGAN TOOK HARRY 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.

THE PEOPLE OF NEW JERSEY CAN'T BE FOOLED. YOU CHERISH TRADITIONAL DEMOCRATIC VALUES -- JOBS, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, AND FAIRNESS. TIME AND TIME AGAIN, YOU'VE FOUGHT FOR THOSE VALUES WHEN THEY WERE ON THE LINE. AND THEY'RE AT STAKE AGAIN NOW.

RONALD REAGAN CAN TAKE HARRY TRUMAN'S TRAIN, BUT HE WON'T STEAL OUR DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. THERE IS ONLY ONE CANDIDATE IN THIS ELECTION WHO STANDS FOR THE VALUES THAT HARRY TRUMAN FOUGHT FOR. AND THAT MAN IS WALTER MONDALE.

THIS ELECTION IS ABOUT IMPORTANT ISSUES. BUT IT IS ALSO ABOUT LEADERSHIP YOU CAN TRUST. FOR THREE MONTHS, WE HAVE TOLD YOU THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD A SECRET PLAN TO RAISE TAXES. EACH TIME, HE DENIED IT.

Well, on Friday we found out the truth in a leak from the Treasury Department. It turns out the President wants to eliminate your deduction for state and local taxes -- including income taxes as well as real estate taxes. That means under Ronald Reagan's plan you'll be taxed twice on what you earn.

Just think what that would mean for average Americans who want to buy a home.

WE ALSO LEARNED THAT RONALD REAGAN WANTS TO TAX ALL UNEMPLOYMENT AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS. THAT'S HITTING BELOW THE BELT. I SAY IT'S UNFAIR TO INCREASE THE BURDEN ON THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY HURT OR JOBLESS.

THE PLAIN FACT IS, IF YOU GIVE HIM ANOTHER CHANCE, RONALD REAGAN WILL SOCK IT TO AVERAGE AMERICANS AGAIN.

But even now, he won't level with you. Mr. Reagan is peddling phony statistics about our tax plan that are more fiction than fact. And when he was asked on Friday about his tax plans, he said: "I'm not going to comment until I have the report."

WHAT HE DIDN'T SAY IS THAT HE WON'T GET THE REPORT UNTIL AEIER THE ELECTION.

I SAY IT'S TIME TO STOP THE SURPRISES AND END THE RUN-AROUND. IT'S TIME FOR THE TRUTH. AND IF PRESIDENT REAGAN WON'T LEVEL WITH US, LET'S ELECT A PRESIDENT WHO WILL.

We're now in the FINAL HOURS OF THIS CAMPAIGN. FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS, YOU'VE HEARD A LOT OF THINGS ABOUT WALTER MONDALE FROM THE REPUBLICANS. Now IT'S MY TURN. I'VE KNOWN WALTER MONDALE FOR SIX YEARS. BUT I'VE KNOWN ABOUT HIS RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR 20 YEARS.

It's a record anyone would be proud of and few can match. He's a lawyer, not an actor. He levels with the American people, and he deals in fact, not fiction. He lives in the real world, not on Fantasy Island. He's a good man. He's a courageous man. And when he asked me to be his running mate, he did more for equal opportunity in one day than Ronald Reagan has done in four long years.

YOU KNOW WHERE HE'S GOING BECAUSE YOU'VE SEEN WHERE HE'S BEEN. HE WROTE THE FAIR HOUSING ACT OF 1968. HE WROTE THE LANDMARK CHILD CARE ACT OF THE EARLY 1970'S. HE STOOD UP FOR MIGRANT WORKERS, EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE NOT A LARGE MINNESOTA CONSTITUENCY. HE'S FOUGHT FOR ARMS CONTROL HIS WHOLE PUBLIC LIFE.

I SAY IF WE WANT CARING AND STRONG LEADERSHIP FOR AMERICA,
THE TIME HAS COME TO STAND UP AND FIGHT FOR WALTER MONDALE.

On Saturday, George Bush said (Quote) "I'd hate to be on a ticket with Walter Mondale this year." Well, George, Let me put your mind at ease. We wouldn't have you.

YESTERDAY MORNING, A REPORTER ASKED ME FOR MY RESPONSE. HE ASKED ME IF I COULD RUN ON A TICKET WITH RONALD REAGAN. LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I TOLD HIM: I COULDN'T BE A CHEERLEADER FOR THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA. I COULDN'T SING THE PRAISES OF STAR WARS OR THE ARMS RACE. AND I COULDN'T FOLLOW ANYONE WHO WANTS TO BURY THE ERA AND ROLL BACK DECADES OF PROGRESS TOWARD EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE.

I HAVE MY INTEGRITY. I HAVE MY PRINCIPLES. AND I'M PROUD TO BE A DEMOCRAT.

WE'RE NOT ONLY GOING TO WIN THIS ELECTION, 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 AND THEY BELIEVE IN EQUAL RIGHTS.

WE ARE GOING TO PROVE FOR ALL THOSE 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