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Opening Remarks, Vice Presidential Debate

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THE DEBATE ON SUNDAY NIGHT RAISED A FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION:
CAN THE UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD LIVE THROUGH FOUR MORE
YEARS OF RONALD REAGAN?

AS WALTER MONDALE SAID, DURING THE DEBATE WE SAW A PRESIDENT
WHO CANNOT MAKE A STATEMENT ABOUT A MAJOR ISSUE WITHOUT MAKING
A MAJOR MISTAKE.

HE SAID HE NEVER SAID SUBMARINE LAUNCHED BALLISTIC MISSILES
WERE RECALLABLE.

THE FACT IS THAT HE IS WRONG ON BOTH COUNTS. HE DID SAY
SO ON MAY 13, 1982 AT A PRESS CONFERENCE. AND MORE IMPORTANT,
THEY ARE NOT RECALLABLE.

HE MADE ANOTHER MISTAKE THAT HAS GRAVE IMPLICATIONS.
HE SAID THAT THE ALTERNATIVE TO THE MARCOS GOVERNMENT IN THE
PHILIPPINES IS COMMUNISM.

THE FACT IS THAT THERE IS A VIGOROUS NON-COMMUNIST
OPPOSITION IN THAT COUNTRY. THE ASSASSINATED AQUINO WAS ONE OF
ITS LEADERS. THE STATE DEPARTMENT ^{TOOK THE UNPRECEDENTED STEP OF COLLECTING} ~~HAD TO CORRECT~~ THE PRESIDENT.
AND EVEN WORSE, MARCOS NOW FEELS ENCOURAGED IN HIS POLICY OF
SUPPRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS.

REAGAN SAID THAT THE CIA HAD CUT OUT OF ITS MANUAL ALL REFERENCES TO ASSASSINATION BEFORE IT WAS PRINTED.

THE FACT IS IT WAS NOT EDITED. THE FACT IS THIS NON-AMERICAN, REPREHENSIBLE DOCUMENT SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN PRINTED.

REAGAN SAID THAT THERE WAS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN HIS DEFICIT AND ILLEGAL ALIENS.

THE FACT IS THAT THERE IS. THE U.S. DEFICIT KEEPS INTEREST RATES UP, ATTRACTING FOREIGN CAPITAL THAT COULD BE GOING TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. THEIR FALTERING ECONOMIES CANNOT EMPLOY THEIR PEOPLE AND THEY ARE FLEEING TO THE U.S.

FINALLY, IN TOTAL NAIVETE HE SAID HE WOULD SHARE WITH THE SOVIETS OUR POSSIBLE STAR WARS TECHNOLOGY. AFTER, LIKE THE GOOD SALESMAN HE IS, HE ^{would give} ~~GAVE~~ THEM A DEMONSTRATION.

THE FACT IS THAT STAR WARS TECHNOLOGY WOULD INVOLVE THE MOST ADVANCED DEVELOPMENTS IN COMPUTERS, GUIDANCE, LASERS. WE CANNOT TURN OVER OUR MOST SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY TO THE RUSSIANS.

AND WHERE WOULD HE CARRY OUT THIS DEMONSTRATION?
DOESN'T HE KNOW THAT MANY OF THE PROPOSED STAR WAR SYSTEMS
REQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WHERE ARE THESE EXPLOSIONS GOING
TO TAKE PLACE -- OVER WHAT CITY? OVER WHAT STATE?

THE FACT IS THAT WALTER MONDALE, FOUR YEARS AFTER LEAVING
THE WHITE HOUSE, HAS A BETTER COMMAND OF DEFENSE AND FOREIGN
POLICY, THAN RONALD REAGAN/WHO HAS/ FOR FOUR YEARS/SAT ON
TOP OF THE MOST POWERFUL NATIONAL SECURITY APPARATUS IN THE FREE WORLD.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CANNOT BE CHARMED BY REHEARSED
ONE-LINERS. I HAVE FAITH THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL SORT
THEIR WAY THROUGH THE GAFFS AND MISTAKES AND DETERMINE
WHETHER MR. REAGAN OFFERS THE LEADERSHIP NECESSARY TO CREATE
A SAFER AND SANER WORLD OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.