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Jefferson Jackson Day Dinner Speech

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Let me acknowledge your superb Congressmen,
Neal Smith & Berkeley Bedell; candidates for
Congress Joe Johnston, Kevin Ruddy, Joe Walsh, &
Jerry Fitzgerald.

JEFFERSON JACKSON DAY DINNER -- AMES, IOWA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1984

Love, Sean,

THANK YOU, TOM, FOR THAT WONDERFUL INTRODUCTION. YOU KNOW,
THE CONSTITUTION SAYS THAT EVERY STATE IS ENTITLED TO TWO
SENATORS. IT'S TIME IOWA HAD AT LEAST ONE -- AND THAT WILL BE
TOM HARKIN.

SINCE I'M FROM QUEENS, I THOUGHT I NEEDED A LITTLE HELP ON
THE GEOGRAPHY OUT HERE. SO I CALLED ROGER JEPSEN AND GOT ALL THE
HELP I NEEDED. AND I'M DELIGHTED TO BE HERE IN CEDAR RAPIDS
TONIGHT.

IOWA IS A GREAT STATE FOR DEMOCRATS. ~~YOU'VE GIVEN US SOME
OF THE TRULY OUTSTANDING LEADERS OF OUR PARTY AND OUR COUNTRY.~~

NO STATE HAS EVER BEEN REPRESENTED BY TWO FINER SENATORS THAN
DICK CLARK AND JOHN CULVER. ~~AND~~ IN HAROLD HUGHES, IOWA HAS A MAN
OF CONSCIENCE AND CONVICTION.

And in Tom Harkin, the country will have an
outstanding new Senator. Every fight that matters --
United States
for farmers, for peace, for human rights, for jobs --
Tom Harkin has ~~been~~ led the charge.

IN THE LAST WEEK, FOUR CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT HAVE DEBATED. AND I KNOW TWO THINGS FOR SURE: I BEAT GEORGE BUSH . / . AND GEORGE BUSH BEAT RONALD REAGAN. / YOU KNOW, YESTERDAY'S PAPER REPORTED THAT SENATOR LAXALT SAID THE PRESIDENT WAS (QUOTE) "BRUTALIZED BY A BRIEFING PROCESS" WHICH "SMOTHERED" HIM WITH FACTS. NOW I ASK YOU -- SINCE WHEN IS IT CONSIDERED CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT TO EXPECT A PRESIDENT TO LEARN THE FACTS HE NEEDS TO GOVERN?

BUT I HAVE TO SAY, IT WAS A CLOSE RACE FOR FOURTH PLACE. / BECAUSE WHILE WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE ARMS RACE, / GEORGE BUSH WANTED TO TALK ABOUT ~~THE WORLD SERIES~~. / ^{BASEBALL.} I SAY TO THE MAN WHO TRIED TO LECTURE ME ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LEBANON AND IRAN, THERE'S A ^{BIG} ~~WORLD OF~~ DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ~~BASEBALL~~ ^{THE WORLD SERIES} AND THE FATE OF THE ~~EARTH~~. / ^{WORLD.} ~~LAST~~ ^{THURSDAY} NIGHT, WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE ARMS RACE BECAUSE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT TO STOP IT. / AND SO DOES FRITZ MONDALE. / HE WILL CALL ON THE SOVIETS TO NEGOTIATE AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT ON HIS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE. / NOT ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN. //

IT'S A LONG ROAD THAT STARTS IN THE IOWA WINTER AND ENDS ON THE STEPS OF THE U.S. CAPITOL ELEVEN MONTHS LATER. / YOU WERE THERE WHEN FRITZ NEEDED YOU IN THE IOWA CAUCUSES, / AND I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO BE THERE TO HELP HIM ACROSS THE FINISH LINE ON NOVEMBER 6TH.

WALTER MONDALE NEEDS YOUR HELP THIS TIME BECAUSE WE'RE IN A
FIGHT FOR ~~THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS COUNTRY~~ THE THINGS OUR PARTY BELIEVES IN.

WE'RE IN A FIGHT FOR PEACE. / I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO HAS THE
COURAGE TO STAND UP TO THE SOVIETS, BUT ALSO THE WISDOM TO SIT
DOWN WITH THEM AND NEGOTIATE AN END TO THE ARMS RACE.

WE'RE IN A FIGHT FOR THE ELDERLY OF AMERICA. / TO PROTECT
THEM, LET'S HAVE RONALD REAGAN COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY BACK IN
CALIFORNIA. / INSTEAD OF CUTTING IT IN WASHINGTON. //

AND LET ME ADD: RONALD REAGAN SAYS THAT FRITZ MONDALE IS
TRYING TO SCARE THE ELDERLY BY TALKING ABOUT THE REAGAN RECORD ON
SOCIAL SECURITY. ^{well —} ~~but~~ THE ELDERLY AREN'T AFRAID OF WHAT FRITZ
MONDALE SAYS ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY. / ^{they know the President's record} THEY'RE AFRAID OF WHAT RONALD
REAGAN IS GOING TO DO.

WE'RE IN A FIGHT FOR OUR PERSONAL FREEDOMS. WE WANT WALTER
MONDALE PICKING SUPREME COURT JUSTICES, NOT JERRY FALWELL.

~~WE'RE IN A FIGHT TO SAVE FAMILY FARMS. LET'S GET INTEREST
RATES DOWN, BOOST FARM EXPORTS, AND HELP FAMILY FARMERS, NOT BIG
CORPORATIONS.~~

~~Let's tell this Administration, the FmHA is
here to help farmers, not foreclose on them.~~

(A) 4 WE'RE IN A FIGHT TO SAVE FAMILY FARMS. THIS ADMINISTRATION'S HEAD IS WITH THE BIG CORPORATIONS, NOT FAMILY FARMERS. LET'S TELL THIS ADMINISTRATION THE F.W.H.A IS THERE TO HELP FARMERS, NOT FORECLOSE ON THEM.

~~REMARKS OF GERALDINE A. FERRARO~~

YOU ALL KNOW BY NOW THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS TAKEN HARRY TRUMAN'S ~~THE~~ PULLMAN CAR OUT OF A MUSEUM TO TRY TO RECREATE TRUMAN'S FAMOUS WHISTLE STOP TOUR OF 1948. WHAT YOU WON'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.

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

ANYONE WHO BELIEVES WHAT THEY'RE PEDDLING OFF THE BACK OF THAT TRAIN SHOULD REMEMBER AN OLD IOWA SAYING: DON'T BUY YOUR TICKET UNTIL YOU HEAR THE TRAIN WHISTLE -- BECAUSE THE MONDALE-FERRARO EXPRESS IS ON ITS WAY.

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 -- A GOOD MANY OF THEM HERE IN IOWA.

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

THAT'S WHY THE PEOPLE OF IOWA ARE GOING TO HELP SEND RONALD REAGAN TO THE SAME PLACE THAT OLD PULLMAN CAR IS GOING AFTER THIS CAMPAIGN: INTO RETIREMENT.

WE'RE IN A FIGHT TO PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT. THIS ADMINISTRATION GAVE US JAMES WATT ONCE AND ANNE BURFORD TWICE. IF THAT'S MR. REAGAN'S IDEA OF DOING A GOOD JOB ON THE ENVIRONMENT, THEN IT'S TIME TO GIVE SOMEONE ELSE THE JOB OF PRESIDENT.

WE'RE IN A FIGHT FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. WHEN I TAKE MY OATH OF OFFICE FOR MY SECOND TERM AS VICE PRESIDENT, I WANT TO SWEAR TO UPHOLD A CONSTITUTION THAT INCLUDES THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

INSERT A

ABOVE ALL, THE FIGHT CONCERNS THE FATE OF THE EARTH. THIS PRESIDENT OPPOSED EVERY MODERN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT EVER NEGOTIATED. HE IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE HERBERT HOOVER NOT TO MEET WITH HIS SOVIET COUNTERPART. HE IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE THE DAWN OF THE NUCLEAR AGE NOT TO NEGOTIATE AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT.

WILL THIS PRESIDENT NEVER LEARN THAT AN ARMS RACE LEADS ONLY TO AN ARMS RACE, AND THAT ARMS CONTROL LEADS TO A SAFER WORLD?

~~I'M GLAD MR. REAGAN FINALLY DECIDED TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH MR. GROMYKO. BUT DON'T THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT THEIR PRESIDENT TO CALL ON THE SOVIETS TO NEGOTIATE ON HIS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE, NOT ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN?~~

TWO MONTHS AGO, WHILE TESTING HIS MICROPHONE BEFORE A RADIO BROADCAST, PRESIDENT REAGAN SAID THAT HE HAD SIGNED LEGISLATION THAT (QUOTE) "OUTLAWS RUSSIA." HE ADDED THAT THE BOMBING BEGINS IN FIVE MINUTES. PRESIDENT REAGAN SAID IT WAS A JOKE. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SHUDDERED, AND OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES WERE SHOCKED.

NOW THE PENTAGON HAS CONFIRMED THAT IN RESPONSE, THE SOVIET UNION WENT INTO A PARTIAL MILITARY ALERT. THAT WAS NO JOKE. OUR PRESIDENT'S RECKLESS COMMENTS JEOPARDIZED OUR SAFETY. FOR THE PERSON WHOSE JOB IT IS TO DEFEND THIS COUNTRY, THAT WAS A VERY SERIOUS MISTAKE. THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR STRATEGIC ARSENAL IS THE MOST SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY A PRESIDENT HAS. A PRESIDENT MUST UNDERSTAND THAT. ABOVE ALL, WE CANNOT AFFORD A PRESIDENT WHO FORGETS THAT HE IS THE PRESIDENT. I WANT A PRESIDENT LIKE WALTER MONDALE.

IN 1969, FRITZ MONDALE WAS ONE OF A HANDFUL OF SENATORS WHO OPPOSED PUTTING MULTIPLE WARHEADS ON OUR MISSILES BECAUSE AS HE SAID, THE SOVIETS WOULD SOON CATCH UP AND DO THE SAME THING. IF WE HAD LISTENED TO WALTER MONDALE THEN, WE WOULD BE SAFER TODAY.

A leader must stand up for the things he believes in. Walter Mondale has always done that.

FRITZ MONDALE HAS FOUGHT FOR OUR CHILDREN ALL THROUGH HIS CAREER. WHEN WALTER MONDALE WAS A SENATOR, HE LED THE FIGHT FOR EXPANDED DAY CARE, CHILD NUTRITION, AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. And remember, children don't vote AS VICE PRESIDENT, HE LED THE CAUSE OF THE BOAT PEOPLE. AND AS CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT, THE FIRST SPEECH HE GAVE WAS TO LAY OUT HIS PROGRAM FOR FARMERS.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN

~~EVERY NOW AND THEN~~, A LEADER MUST REMIND US NOT ONLY THAT WE
ARE A GREAT NATION, BUT THAT AMERICA CAN BE EVEN GREATER. ~~EVERY~~ ^{THERE ARE TIMES}

~~NOW AND THEN~~ ^{WHEN} A LEADER MUST SWIM AGAINST THE TIDE TO BE TRUE TO
HIS BELIEFS. / FRITZ MONDALE IS THAT KIND OF LEADER. /

NAME THE LAST TIME RONALD REAGAN TOOK THE LEAD ON AN ISSUE
IN ADVANCE OF HIS TIME. / A LEADER MUST // NAME THE LAST TIME
PRESIDENT REAGAN TOOK A CHANCE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE. / WALTER
MONDALE HAS. // TIME AND AGAIN HE HAS PUT HIS CAREER ON THE LINE TO
SECURE THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS. /

AND THE MOST RECENT CHANCE HE TOOK WAS TO ASK ME TO BE HIS
VICE PRESIDENT. / EVERYONE TALKS ABOUT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. / ONLY A
FEW STAND UP FOR IT. AND WHEN I TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE AS THE
FIRST FEMALE VICE PRESIDENT IN AMERICAN HISTORY, WE CAN ALL THANK
WALTER MONDALE. /

THIS CANDIDACY IS NOT JUST A SYMBOL: IT'S A BREAKTHROUGH. /
IT'S NOT JUST A STATEMENT: IT'S A BOND BETWEEN WOMEN ALL OVER
AMERICA. /

IN ST. PAUL A FEW WEEKS AGO, A 91-YEAR-OLD WOMAN CAME UP TO
ME, HUGGED ME, AND SAID: "I NEVER THOUGHT I'D LIVE TO SEE THIS
DAY."

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, WHOSE 100TH BIRTHDAY WE CELEBRATED THIS WEEK, DID NOT LIVE TO SEE THIS DAY. BUT I THINK SHE'D BE PROUD.

SHE WAS 36 BEFORE SHE CAST HER FIRST VOTE, BECAUSE THE LAW DIDN'T LET HER. / WHAT A WASTE. / SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN PREVENTED FROM ELECTING PUBLIC OFFICIALS; SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ONE. /

YOU KNOW, BY MOST STANDARDS, I DON'T HAVE MUCH IN COMMON WITH ELEANOR ROOSEVELT.

SHE WAS BORN TO PRIVILEGE; / I WAS NOT. / SHE CAME FROM A FAMOUS AMERICAN FAMILY; / MY FATHER WAS AN IMMIGRANT FROM ITALY. //

YOU NAME IT: / RELIGION / ACCENT / EDUCATION / AND BACKGROUND. / WE ARE AS DIFFERENT AS NIGHT AND DAY. /

BUT WHEN YOU COME DOWN TO IT, NONE OF THAT REALLY MATTERS. BECAUSE WE SHARE BELIEFS, AND THAT MEANS FAR MORE THAN ALL THE LESS IMPORTANT WAYS WE DIFFER. / AND THE BELIEFS WE SHARE ARE THE ONES THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS ALWAYS STOOD FOR. /

CIVIL RIGHTS; / JOBS AND A DECENT LIFE FOR WORKING MEN AND WOMEN; / PEACE, DEMOCRACY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS; / AND JUSTICE FOR EVERY AMERICAN.

THOSE ARE MY GOALS, AND THE GOALS OF MY RUNNING MATE AND MY PARTY. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT DEDICATED HER LIFE TO THEM, AND TODAY THEY ARE AT STAKE IN THIS ELECTION.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT: WE'RE IN A FIGHT FOR THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS COUNTRY.

AND AS DEMOCRATS, WE'RE GOING TO WIN THAT FIGHT.

THIS IS A BRAND NEW RACE. IT'S GETTING HOT -- AND THEY'RE FEELING THE HEAT. IT'S GETTING CLOSE -- AND THEY'RE GETTING WORRIED.

FOR OUR COUNTRY, FOR OUR FUTURE, FOR THE PRINCIPLES WE BELIEVE IN, WALTER MONDALE AND I HAVE JUST BEGUN TO FIGHT.

The time to wage that fight is not later. It is now.
to register new voters

-- END --

to stop the arms race
to send Tom Harkin to the U.S. Senate
to elect Fritz Mondale President &
Gerry Ferraro Vice President