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Little Rock Rally Speech

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LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1984

THANK YOU, BILL, FOR THAT TERRIFIC INTRODUCTION. IN BILL CLINTON, THE PEOPLE OF ARKANSAS HAVE A GOVERNOR WHO HAS SET NEW STANDARDS OF EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC EXCELLENCE.

I ALSO WANT TO RECOGNIZE: MY COLLEAGUES CONGRESSMEN BILL ALEXANDER AND BERYL ANTHONY, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR WINSTON BRYANT, AND MAYORS BUDDY BENEFIELD AND THOMPSON REED. LET ME ALSO SAY A SPECIAL HELLO TO BETTY BUMPERS, WHO HAS DONE SO MUCH TO SHOW ALL AMERICANS WHY WE MUST STOP THE ARMS RACE.

Pentagon joke

~~I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'VE BEEN HAVING SOME PROBLEMS WITH THE WEATHER LATELY. WELL, I'M HAPPY TO REPORT THAT THE ONLY TORNADO IN MY FORECAST IS POLITICAL. AND ON NOVEMBER 6, THAT TORNADO IS GOING TO SWEEP WALTER MONDALE INTO THE WHITE HOUSE AND SEND RONALD REAGAN BACK TO HIS RANCH.~~

Did you all see the debate 2 weeks ago?

~~I WAS ASTONISHED TO READ THAT THE PUNDITS THOUGHT THE DEBATE BETWEEN WALTER MONDALE AND RONALD REAGAN WAS A DRAW. I THINK WE WON HANDS DOWN. BUT LET ME TAKE MY OWN OBJECTIVE SURVEY RIGHT HERE:~~

DID WALTER MONDALE WIN THAT DEBATE?

Are we going to win this election

REMARKS OF GERALDINE A. FERRARO

DRAFT UPLIFT STUMP II

(GREETINGS AND USUAL SURVEY)

THREE MONTHS AGO, FRITZ MONDALE AND I BEGAN A JOURNEY WITHOUT PRECEDENT, FOR A CAUSE AS OLD AS AMERICA. EQUALITY HAS NEVER BEEN SO REAL, NOR DISCRIMINATION SO DISTANT AS WHEN FRITZ MONDALE ASKED ME TO BE HIS RUNNING-MATE. I ACCEPTED MY PARTY'S NOMINATION. THAT NIGHT, EVERY AMERICAN FELT A SURGE OF PRIDE AS OUR COUNTRY'S SPECIAL PROMISE OF OPPORTUNITY CAME TRUE FOR AN IMMIGRANT'S DAUGHTER.

FOR HALF A CENTURY THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS BEEN FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE WITH THOSE WHO ASKED FOR NOTHING MORE THAN THE FREEDOM TO SUCCEED. TOGETHER, WE'VE COME A LONG WAY. NAME THE GREAT VICTORIES AGAINST IMPOSSIBLE ODDS -- CIVIL RIGHTS, SOCIAL SECURITY, AND COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN. THOSE VICTORIES ARE STAMPED, "MADE IN AMERICA, BY DEMOCRATS."

WE PICKED THIS COUNTRY UP OFF THE CANVAS IN THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND BEGAN THE GREATEST SUSTAINED ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN HISTORY.

WE SAW THE ELDERLY LIVING DESTITUTE LIVES AND BUILT THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM.

Pentagon Joke

You know.

WE'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT THE PENTAGON'S RECENT

TRIPS TO THE APPLIANCE STORE. FIRST, THEY BOUGHT

COFFEE MAKERS FOR \$7,000. ^{TODAY'S PAPERS REPORTED} THEN, THEY WENT OUT

AND PAID \$16,000 FOR AN ICEBOX TO KEEP THEIR

LUNCHES COLD.

AT THAT RATE, I'M JUST GLAD NO ONE AT THE

PENTAGON IS GETTING MARRIED, OR WE'D ALL HAVE

TO CHIP IN FOR THE \$50,000 TOASTER.

WE FACED THE FASCIST THREAT HEAD ON AND PRESERVED OUR WAY OF LIFE.

WE SHOWED RACISM THE DOOR AND GAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE TO ALL AMERICANS.

WE ACCEPTED THE SOVIET SPACE CHALLENGE BY CREATING THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, AND WE BEAT THEM TO THE MOON BY THE END OF THAT DECADE.

WE SAW THE ELDERLY UNABLE TO AFFORD MEDICAL CARE AND HELPED THEM PAY THEIR BILLS. TODAY, OUR SENIOR CITIZENS DON'T HAVE TO WORRY THAT A TRIP TO THE HOSPITAL WILL COST THEM THEIR LIFE SAVINGS.

AND WE CHANGED HUMAN RIGHTS FROM A SLOGAN TO A BASIC PRINCIPLE OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

THOSE VICTORIES MADE US THE RICHEST, FREEST, MOST SECURE NATION IN THE WORLD. BUT THE JOB ISN'T DONE, AND WE WON'T Quit UNTIL IT IS.

AND THAT'S WHAT THIS ELECTION IS ALL ABOUT. NOT THE PAST. NOT EVEN WHO GETS BLAME AND WHO GETS CREDIT FOR WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES TODAY. THE CENTRAL QUESTION IS HOW WE WILL MEET THE CHALLENGE OF THE FUTURE, AND WHO CAN BEST LEAD THE WAY.

ABOVE ALL, THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION WILL BE JUDGED ON HOW IT DEFENDS TWO GREAT FREEDOMS: THE FREEDOM TO ACHIEVE, AND THE FREEDOM FROM FEAR.

AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT EDUCATION UNLOCKS THE DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY. WE KNOW THAT TO GET AHEAD, YOU HAVE TO GET AN EDUCATION.

BUT THIS ADMINISTRATION SIMPLY DOESN'T VALUE EDUCATION, AND IT DOESN'T CARE WHETHER ALL OF US -- NOT JUST A FEW -- ENJOY A FAIR CHANCE TO SUCCEED.

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

DRASTICALLY

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

JUST TELLING CHILDREN TO STUDY HARD AND BEHAVE WON'T PUT BOOKS ON THE LIBRARY SHELVES, OR INSTRUMENTS IN THE LABORATORIES. WALTER MONDALE AND I WILL LAUNCH A MAJOR NEW INVESTMENT IN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE, TO MAKE THIS THE BEST EDUCATED GENERATION IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT PERSONAL FREEDOM IS THE KEY TO ACHIEVEMENT, AND THAT CONSCIENCE IS THE SOURCE OF ALL PERSONAL FREEDOM.

BUT THE EXTREMISTS WHO CONTROL THE REPUBLICAN PARTY BELIEVE THAT THE MORAL VALUES OF ONE GROUP SHOULD BE THE LAW OF THE LAND. THEY WOULD IMPOSE A RELIGIOUS TEST ON FEDERAL JUDGES, AND PUT THE GOVERNMENT BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR MOST PERSONAL CHOICES. //

I SAY WE NEED WALTER MONDALE PICKING OUR SUPREME COURT JUSTICES, NOT JERRY FALWELL. //

TO REALIZE OUR POTENTIAL, WE MUST KEEP GOVERNMENT OUT OF OUR PRIVATE LIVES. WALTER MONDALE AND I WILL KEEP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND OUT OF OUR HOMES, OUR CHURCHES AND OUR SYNAGOGUES.

FINALLY, AMERICANS ARE COMMITTED TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. WE BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE SHOULD BE ABLE TO RISE AS HIGH AS THEIR TALENTS WILL TAKE THEM. //

BUT THIS ADMINISTRATION DRAGGED ITS FEET ON CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION, AND STOPPED THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IN ITS TRACKS. IT PUT ITS FULL WEIGHT ON THE SIDE OF THOSE WHO WOULD DISCRIMINATE AGAINST WOMEN, MINORITIES AND THE DISABLED. //

I SAY WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO SUPPORTS CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS, NOT SEGREGATED ACADEMIES.

FOR THIS COUNTRY TO STAY FREE, IT MUST STAY FAIR.
WALTER MONDALE AND I WILL BRING THE LIGHT OF JUSTICE TO EVERY
CORNER OF AMERICA. AND 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.

AND FOR OUR CHILDREN TO HAVE THE FREEDOM TO ACHIEVE, WE
MUST TACKLE THE PROBLEMS OF THE FUTURE HEAD ON, AND NOT PUSH
THEM ASIDE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION TO INHERIT. WE MUST BRING
THOSE OMINOUS DEFICITS UNDER CONTROL, REBUILD OUR OLD
INDUSTRIES, AND PIONEER NEW ONES. WE MUST INVEST IN
TOMORROW'S JOBS AND RESTORE AMERICA'S COMPETITIVE EDGE.

WALTER MONDALE AND I SEE THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW AND
HAVE OFFERED PLANS TO MEET THEM. WE WILL LEAVE NO REGION, NO
INDUSTRY, NO RACE BEHIND AS WE BUILD A SOCIETY WITH JUSTICE
FOR ALL. AND I BELIEVE AMERICANS SHARE THAT VISION.

TO BE FREE TO ACHIEVE, WE MUST BE FREE FROM FEAR.

WE MUST BE FREE FROM THE FEAR THAT OUR LAND, AND OUR
CHILDREN, AND OUR LIVES MAY BE POISONED BY TOXIC WASTES.
• TOO MANY AMERICANS NOW 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 HAVE SHAMEFULLY MISMANAGED THE SUPERFUND, SLASHED THE EPA BUDGET BY HALF, OPPOSED THE SAFE WATER DRINKING ACT, AND FAILED TO HELP LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS REMOVE ASBESTOS FROM SOME 33,000 PUBLIC SCHOOLS -- ASBESTOS WHICH CAUSES DEADLY CANCER AND LUNG DISEASE.

ACROSS THE BOARD, THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS THE WORST ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD SINCE SHERMAN MARCHED THROUGH GEORGIA. FOR EVERY CHICKEN COOP, THEY FOUND A FOX TO GUARD IT. 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 A REAUTHORIZED AND EXPANDED SUPERFUND TO CLEAN UP THE MOST DANGEROUS TOXIC DUMPS.

AMERICANS DESERVE A GOVERNMENT THAT TAKES THEIR SIDE AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF POLLUTERS. AND YOU CAN COUNT ON THAT KIND OF GOVERNMENT FROM PRESIDENT MONDALE.

THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED MUST BE FREE FROM THE FEAR THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO LIVE IN POVERTY AND DESPAIR.

UNDER PRESIDENT REAGAN, NEARLY HALF A MILLION DISABLED WERE CRUELLY FORCED OFF DISABILITY, DEPRIVING THEM OF THEIR DIGNITY AND THEIR INCOME. HE PROPOSED CUTTING SOCIAL SECURITY BY 25 PERCENT AND TRIED TO BALANCE A 200 BILLION DOLLAR DEFICIT BY TAKING \$122 A MONTH FROM OLDER WOMEN.

TO PROTECT THEM, WE NEED TO HAVE RONALD REAGAN BACK IN CALIFORNIA COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY INSTEAD OF *having him* WASHINGTON CUTTING ~~the~~ Social Security.

SOCIAL SECURITY IS A BOND BETWEEN THE GENERATIONS. AND WALTER MONDALE AND I WILL HONOR IT.

AND ABOVE ALL, AMERICANS MUST BE FREE FROM THE FEAR OF WAR. AND THE BEST WAY TO ACOMPLISH THAT IS TO HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO WORKS TO BUILD A SAFER WORLD.

PRESIDENT REAGAN IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE HOOVER NOT TO MEET WITH THE SOVIET LEADER. HE IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE THE DAWN OF THE NUCLEAR AGE NOT TO SIGN AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT. AND HE IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT IN HISTORY TO SUPPORT AN ARMS RACE IN SPACE.

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

BEIRUT INSERT

THIS IS THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC BOMBING OF OUR MARINES IN BEIRUT. AFTER THAT BOMBING, THIS PRESIDENT SAID HE WAS RESPONSIBLE, BUT WHAT HE REALLY MEANT WAS, ~~CASE~~ ^{HE} IS CLOSED.

THEN LAST SUNDAY NIGHT IN THE DEBATE, MR. REAGAN BLAMED THE LOCAL COMMANDER FOR THE BEIRUT TRAGEDY.

I WISH WE HAD A PRESIDENT WHO, WHEN HE SAID HE WAS RESPONSIBLE, REALLY MEANT IT. I WISH WE HAD A PRESIDENT WHO LEARNED FROM HIS OWN MISTAKES, /

WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL STOP EXCHANGING INSULTS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND START EXCHANGING SERIOUS ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS.

AND WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL STOP THE ARMS RACE BEFORE IT SPINS INTO SPACE. IT'S TIME TO SAY, THE SKY'S THE LIMIT.

TO DO THAT, WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO IS INFORMED AND ENERGETIC, ACTIVE AND INVOLVED.

PRESIDENT CARTER SHOWED IN THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS THAT PERSEVERENCE BY A DETERMINED PRESIDENT CAN CUT THROUGH CENTURIES OF BITTER HATRED. BY COMPARISON, RONALD REAGAN HAS FORFEITED THE LEADERSHIP WHICH ONLY THE PRESIDENT CAN GIVE US.

NAME A REGION OF THE WORLD, AND OUR INFLUENCE IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS HAS WANED, NOT GROWN. NAME A FOREIGN POLICY MISTAKE, AND THIS PRESIDENT HAS BLAMED SOMEONE ELSE.

BEIRUT INSERT

~~THE POLITICS OF BLAME IS NOT WHAT WE EXPECT OF OUR LEADERS. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT A PRESIDENT WHO ADMITS HIS MISTAKES AND LEARNS FROM THEM. THEY WANT A PRESIDENT WHO CARES MORE ABOUT PROTECTING THIS NATION, THAN ABOUT PROTECTING HIS OWN IMAGE.~~

THAT'S THE KIND OF PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE WILL BE. HE WILL PRESS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS NOT ONLY IN THE SOVIET UNION AND POLAND, BUT ALSO IN EL SALVADOR, SOUTH AFRICA, AND THE PHILIPPINES. HE WILL BE COMMITTED TO DIPLOMACY AS A FIRST RESORT AND FORCE AS A LAST RESORT. HE WILL HAVE THE COURAGE TO STAND UP TO THE SOVIET UNION, BUT ALSO THE WISDOM TO SIT DOWN WITH THEM AND NEGOTIATE AN END TO THE ARMS RACE.

~~Debate INSERT~~

THE CHALLENGES ARE GREAT TODAY, BUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE EVEN GREATER. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT STOKED THE EMBER OF DEFIANT HOPE IN ALL OF US, WHEN SHE SAID, "YOU MUST DO THE THING YOU THINK YOU CANNOT DO."

LET OTHERS SAY WE CAN'T AFFORD EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN AMERICA. I SAY WE MUST PASS THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

LET OTHERS SAY WE CAN'T GUARANTEE OUR PERSONAL FREEDOMS IN THIS COUNTRY. I SAY WE MUST.

LET OTHERS SAY WE CAN'T CLEAN UP TOXIC WASTE DUMPS. I SAY WE OWE IT TO OUR CHILDREN NOT TO POISON THEIR WORLD.

LET OTHERS SAY WE CAN'T KEEP OUR BOND WITH SENIOR CITIZENS. I SAY WE MUST KEEP SOCIAL SECURITY SECURE.

AND LET OTHERS SAY THERE ~~IS~~ NO WAY TO STOP THE NUCLEAR
ARMS RACE. I SAY OUR NATION'S SECURITY AND OUR CHILDREN'S
FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT. THIS COUNTRY HAS NEVER FAILED TO MEET A
CHALLENGE, AND WE WON'T START NOW.

~~AND~~

LET OTHERS SAY THIS ELECTION CANNOT BE WON. I SAY IT
CAN. IT MUST. AND WITH YOUR HELP IT WILL.

~~==~~ *conclude*
--END--

7.10

CONCLUSION

THE OTHER DAY, GEORGE BUSH SAID, "WE'VE JUST WRAPPED UP FOUR MORE YEARS." THE ARROGANCE OF THIS ADMINISTRATION ASTOUNDS ME. THIS ELECTION WILL BE DECIDED BY THE VOTERS, NOT GEORGE BUSH.

WALTER MONDALE AND I ARE GOING TO CAMPAIGN ACROSS THIS COUNTRY FOR THE THINGS WE BELIEVE IN. AND ~~BEFORE~~ I HAVE ~~SOME~~ NEWS FOR GEORGE BUSH: WE'RE GOING TO WIN!

YOU HAVE EMOTIONAL STAKES IN THIS ELECTION, NOT JUST FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW, BUT FOR THE NEXT DECADE AND INTO THE NEXT CENTURY. WE HAVE A CHOICE BETWEEN CONTINUING THE ARMS RACE, OR STOPPING IT, / BEING CRUEL OR BEING FAIR, / INCREASING DEFICITS OR REBUILDING THE ECONOMY, / POISONING THE PLANET OR PROTECTING IT. //

YOU HAVE MY CHILDREN'S FUTURE IN YOUR HANDS. PLEASE HELP US ON NOV. 6TH. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.