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West Frankfort Rally Speech

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I'm pleased to see
the next Congressman from
this District.

WEST FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1984

~~Handwritten scribble~~
G
~~Handwritten scribble~~

THANK YOU, PAUL, FOR THAT VERY KIND INTRODUCTION. I'M
DELIGHTED TO BE HERE WITH A MAN WHO IS NOT ONLY A LINCOLN
SCHOLAR, A GREAT FRIEND OF EDUCATION, A FIGHTER FOR WORKING MEN
AND WOMEN, BUT ALSO THE NEXT SENATOR FROM ILLINOIS. //

WHEN YOU ELECT PAUL SIMON TO THE SENATE IT WILL MEAN A LOT
TO EVERYONE IN ILLINOIS. WHEN YOU CHOOSE A SENATOR, YOU ARE
CHOOSING ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN OUR GOVERNMENT.

SENATORS VOTE ON ~~_____~~ TREATIES, CONFIRM PRESIDENTIAL
APPOINTMENTS, AND APPROVE SUPREME COURT NOMINEES. As Vice President
and a person concerned about personal freedom, ~~AND WHEN I~~
~~THINK OF PERSONAL FREEDOM, AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS I'D RATHER HAVE~~

PAUL SIMON AND JIM HUNT MAKING THOSE DECISIONS THAN CHARLES PERCY
AND JESSE HELMS.

NOW, I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO VOTE FOR DEMOCRATS IN THE
SENATE AND IN THE WHITE HOUSE. BUT JUST TO CHECK, I WANT TO TAKE
MY OWN ~~PERSONAL~~, objective SCIENTIFIC SURVEY RIGHT HERE:

IS PAUL SIMON GOING TO WIN IN NOVEMBER?

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

YOU BET WE ARE. I CAN'T STUMP THIS CROWD.

FOR THREE MONTHS NOW, OUR PARTY HAS BEEN ON A JOURNEY WITHOUT PRECEDENT, FOR A CAUSE AS OLD AS OUR COUNTRY. THE PROMISE OF EQUALITY WAS NEVER SO NEAR, NOR DISCRIMINATION SO FAR, AS WHEN FRITZ MONDALE ASKED ME TO BE HIS RUNNING MATE. HE DID MORE FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN A SINGLE DAY THAN RONALD REAGAN HAS DONE IN FOUR LONG YEARS.

THIS ELECTION IS NOT A DUEL BETWEEN PERSONALITIES. YOU CAN LIKE RONALD REAGAN, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO VOTE FOR HIM.

ABOVE ALL, THIS ELECTION IS ABOUT DEFENDING FOUR GREAT AMERICAN PRINCIPLES.

FIRST, 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 DRAMATICALLY 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, AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT PERSONAL FREEDOM

IS ESSENTIAL. BUT 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 WON'T HAVE ANY KIND OF FUTURE WITHOUT THIS PLANET. WE MUST 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~~
~~REMOVE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.~~ HE WILL REBUILD THE EPA. HE WILL USE A REAUTHORIZED AND EXPANDED 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.

AND FOURTH, THERE'S NO GREATER AMERICAN PRINCIPLE THAN PEACE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, AND THAT REQUIRES ENDING THE ARMS RACE.

PRESIDENT REAGAN IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE HOOVER NOT TO MEET WITH ~~THE~~ ^{HIS} SOVIET ~~LEADER~~ ^{COUNTERPART.} HE IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT SINCE THE DAWN OF THE NUCLEAR AGE NOT TO SIGN AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT.

^{negotiate} I SAY WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO WILL ~~MEET WITH THE~~ ^{call on the} SOVIETS ^{to} ~~LEADER~~ ON HIS FIRST DAY IN OFFICE, NOT ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

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. RATHER THAN EXTENDING THE ARMS RACE INTO SPACE, LET'S STOP IT HERE ON EARTH.

CONTROLLING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT -- BUT NOT THE ONLY -- KEY TO A SAFER WORLD. / OUR SECURITY ALSO CALLS FOR SUPPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS. /

BUT THIS ADMINISTRATION DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THAT BASIC CONNECTION. IN HIS LAST DEBATE, RONALD REAGAN SAID THE ONLY

OPPOSITION TO MARCOS IN THE PHILIPPINES WAS COMMUNISM. THAT'S NOT ONLY WRONG, IT WAS A BLOW TO DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS IN THAT TROUBLED COUNTRY. / I WISH HE UNDERSTOOD THAT LONG AFTER MARCOS IS GONE, THE PHILIPPINE PEOPLE WILL STILL BE THERE. / WE NEED THEIR FRIENDSHIP. /

I WANT A PRESIDENT WHO UNDERSTANDS THAT WHEN WE PRESS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WE STRENGTHEN OUR OWN COUNTRY. I WANT AN ADMINISTRATION WHICH STOPS TOASTING DICTATORS AND STARTS FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY.

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THOSE ARE THE FOUR BASIC PRINCIPLES. BUT TO BUILD THE FUTURE, WE MUST DO IT TOGETHER. DIVIDING US INTO HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS WON'T STRENGTHEN THIS COUNTRY. AND DIVIDING THE REGIONS INTO FROSTBELT AND SUNBELT WEAKENS AMERICA.

I WAS IN SILICON VALLEY IN CALIFORNIA LAST WEEK, 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 COALMINERS OF ILLINOIS UNDERSTAND, WHEN ONE INDUSTRY IS IN TROUBLE, ALL INDUSTRIES ARE THREATENED. / OUR OWN SELF-INTEREST TELLS US THAT THE SUNBELT CANNOT FORSAKE THE FROSTBELT, AND HIGH TECH CANNOT FORGET SMOKESTACK. /

SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO BLAME OUR WORKERS FOR THE PROBLEMS OF

I ALSO WANT A PRESIDENT COMMITTED TO ENDING HUNGER AND PREVENTING STARVATION. / RIGHT NOW, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE ARE DYING EACH DAY IN ETHIOPIA BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT. WE HAVE ALL SEEN THE TRAGIC PICTURES. / MEANWHILE, WORLD CEREAL PRODUCTION IS UP / AND OUR STOREHOUSES ARE PACKED WITH GRAIN. / THAT SHOCKING CONTRAST IS INDECENT. /

THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF. BUT THEY CUT BACK ON FOOD FOR PEACE / BY NEARLY 700 MILLION DOLLARS. // THEY DID NOT ACT WHEN EVERYONE SAW THE PROBLEM / AND NOW THE PROBLEM HAS BECOME A TRAGEDY. //

I WANT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT SENDS OVERSEAS FEWER TOOLS FOR WAR / AND MORE FOOD FOR PEACE. //

OUR BASIC INDUSTRIES. BUT THE FACT IS, THOUSANDS OF COAL MINERS IN ILLINOIS WANT JOBS AND CAN'T FIND THEM. YET THE ENERGY STORED IN THIS STATE'S COAL RESOURCES IS GREATER THAN ALL THE OIL IN SAUDI ARABIA. //

TO PUT OUR PEOPLE TO WORK, WE NEED TO PUT THOSE RESOURCES TO WORK. I SAY IF WE JUST INVEST IN EDUCATION AND NEW EQUIPMENT, AND GIVE PEOPLE THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO DO THE JOB, AMERICAN WORKERS CAN OUTPRODUCE, OUTCOMPETE, AND OUTSELL ANY OTHER WORKER ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH. //

LET OTHERS SAY THAT PEOPLE AREN'T LOOKING HARD ENOUGH FOR WORK. IN THE HEIGHT OF THE RECESSION, THIS PRESIDENT TOLD THE UNEMPLOYED TO READ THE WANT ADS. THE PROBLEM WAS, THE UNEMPLOYED DON'T GET ALL THOSE FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS WHERE THEIR JOBS ARE NOW BEING ADVERTISED.

LET OTHERS TRY TO DIVIDE AMERICA REGION AGAINST REGION. IN MY BOOK, IT'S NOT A COMPLETE RECOVERY UNTIL WORKERS HAVE RECOVERED THEIR JOBS. AMERICA IS NOT BACK AND STANDING TALL UNTIL THE AUTOWORKERS OF MICHIGAN, THE STEELWORKERS OF PENNSYLVANIA AND OHIO, AND THE FARMERS OF ~~ILLINOIS~~ ILLINOIS 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 ARE COMMITTED TO AN AMERICA WHICH JUDGES PEOPLE NOT BY THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN, BUT BY THE CONTENT OF THEIR CHARACTER.

WE WANT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT SUPPORTS CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS, NOT SEGREGATED ACADEMIES.

AND, FINALLY, WE 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 DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED IN THESE PRINCIPLES. BUT RECENTLY IT SEEMS LIKE WE MAY HAVE ANOTHER NEW CONVERT. RONALD REAGAN HAS BEEN RIDING HARRY TRUMAN'S TRAIN.

TWO WEEKS AGO, HE TOOK HARRY TRUMAN'S PULLMAN CAR OUT OF A MUSEUM TO TRY TO RECREATE TRUMAN'S FAMOUS WHISTLE-STOP TOUR OF 1948. 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.

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 CLUE

ABOUT WHO WAS AT THE CONTROLS, OR IN WHAT DIRECTION HE WAS GOING.

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. *shut it*

You all know that
WALTER MONDALE HAS BEEN A FRIEND OF FARMERS AS LONG AS REAGAN HAS OPPOSED THEM. / MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT: / WALTER MONDALE WILL BE THE BEST PRESIDENT ILLINOIS FARMERS EVER HAD.

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.

I CAN READ THE POLLS. / AND I'VE HEARD WHAT THE REPORTERS ARE SAYING. THEY TELL ME PEOPLE ARE GOING TO VOTE FOR MR. REAGAN, EVEN THOUGH THEY OPPOSE HIS POLICIES, BECAUSE THEY LIKE HIM.

WELL, LET ME SAY SOMETHING TO ANY OF YOU WHO FEEL THAT WAY. / 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

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I also want you to know that

I HAVEN'T JUST BEGUN TO THINK ABOUT THE FARM PROBLEM. AS CHAIR OF THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM COMMITTEE, I CAME TO SPRINGFIELD AND LISTENED TO FARMERS TALK ABOUT THE NEEDS OF AGRICULTURE AND THE PROBLEMS FACING FAMILY FARMERS. WHAT I LEARNED IS THAT WE HAVE A FARM CRISIS IN THIS COUNTRY

over the past 5 yrs to prevent it & then

I HAVE DONE MY BEST TO HELP SOLVE IT. IN 1982 I RECEIVED A 100 PERCENT VOTING RATING FROM THE FARMER'S UNION, AND THAT AIN'T BAD FOR A CITY KID.

1983 98, 1988 100

NOTHING PLEASANT ABOUT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND
MINORITIES.

THINK ABOUT IT. IF PEOPLE VOTE FOR RONALD REAGAN THEY
SHOULD KNOW THAT THEY'RE VOTING TO EXTEND THE ARMS RACE INTO
SPACE AND THEY'RE VOTING TO RETREAT FROM HUMAN RIGHTS. BUT THEY
SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT IF THEY VOTE FOR WALTER MONDALE, THEY'RE
VOTING TO STOP THE ARMS RACE, PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT, PROTECT
SOCIAL SECURITY, REDUCE THESE DEFICITS, AND PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS.

~~THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU DO ON ELECTION DAY. I KNOW WHAT I'M
DOING. I'M VOTING FOR YOU, FOR MY CHILDREN, AND FOR MY
CHILDREN'S CHILDREN.~~

~~THEY SAY THIS ELECTION CANNOT BE WON. I SAY IT CAN BE. IT
MUST BE, AND WITH YOUR HELP, IT WILL BE.~~

~~THANK YOU VERY MUCH.~~

~~END~~