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Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Rally Speech

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SCRANTON-WILKES BARRE

OPENING

WE HAVE BEGUN AN EXTRAORDINARY CAMPAIGN FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE. SINCE LABOR DAY WE HAVE TRAVELLED -- QUITE LITERALLY -- FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA, AND BACK AGAIN. WE WENT FROM NEW YORK, TO WISCONSIN AND THEN ON TO CALIFORNIA AND THE WEST. AND NOW WE ARE BACK EAST IN THE GREAT STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

AND LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING: I'M MORE CONVINCED THAN EVER THAT THE POLLSTERS AND PUNDITS WHO SAY THIS ELECTION IS OVER BEFORE IT STARTS ARE WRONG -- ONCE AGAIN.

LET ME TAKE MY OWN SCIENTIFIC, OBJECTIVE POLL RIGHT HERE. ARE WE GOING TO WIN THIS ELECTION?

ARE WE GOING TO PUT FRITZ MONDALE IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND SEND RONALD REAGAN BACK TO THE RANCH?

YOU BET WE ARE.

I DON'T THINK THE PEOPLE OF SCRANTON AND WILKES BARRE ARE GOING TO RE-ELECT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT HAS NOT REDUCED UNEMPLOYMENT.

WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION THAT PRODUCES JOBS, NOT JUST

retort

RHETORIC.

I DON'T THINK THE PEOPLE OF SCRANTON AND WILKES BARRE ARE GOING TO RE-ELECT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT HAS SLASHED SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE BENEFITS.

WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION THAT WORKS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, NOT AGAINST THEM.

I DON'T THINK THE PEOPLE OF SCRANTON AND WILKES BARRE ARE GOING TO RE-ELECT AN ADMINISTRATION THAT SITS BY WHILE TOXIC WASTE ^{DUMPS} ~~SITS~~ LEAK POISON INTO OUR SOIL AND OUR WATER.

WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION THAT WILL TAKE POLLUTERS TO COURT, NOT TO LUNCH.

BUT MOST OF ALL, WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION THAT CARES ABOUT MORE THAN THE NARROW SELF-INTEREST OF THE RICH. WE NEED AN ADMINISTRATION THAT ENCOURAGES AMERICANS TO HELP EACH OTHER, NOT STAND IN EACH OTHER'S WAY.

CARING ABOUT OTHERS

I BELIEVE PEOPLE SHOULD THINK ABOUT MORE THAN ~~THEMSELVES~~ THEMSELVES. AND I BELIEVE MOST AMERICANS DO JUST THAT. WE ARE NOT A SELFISH, SELF-CENTERED PEOPLE. WE ARE A GENEROUS PEOPLE, AND NOT ONLY ARE WE GENEROUS. WE'RE BOUND TOGETHER

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LIKE A FAMILY.

LIKE A FAMILY, WE OWE AN OBLIGATION TO EACH OTHER AND,
MOST IMPORTANT, TO THE NEXT GENERATION.

THAT'S SOMETHING I LEARNED FROM MY OWN FAMILY.

MY FATHER CAME TO THIS COUNTRY, LIKE SO MANY IMMIGRANTS
EXPECTING TO FIND THE STREETS PAVED WITH GOLD. WELL, ~~THERE~~
the gold he found was
~~WERE NO GOLDEN STREETS, BUT THERE~~ WAS A LAND OF GOLDEN
OPPORTUNITY. IF YOU WORKED HARD AND PLAYED BY THE RULES YOU
COULD CARVE OUT A BETTER FUTURE FOR YOURSELF AND FOR YOUR
FAMILY.

HE AND MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME THERE IS NO GREATER GOOD, NO
FINER REWARD THAN TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

I'M GRATEFUL FOR THAT LEGACY. IT'S A LEGACY SHARED BY
MOST AMERICANS. FROM THE CHILDREN OF THE MAYFLOWER TO THE
CHILDREN OF ELLIS ISLAND, ALL OF US HAVE INHERITED THE
PROMISE THAT EACH GENERATION OF AMERICANS WILL LEAVE THE
WORLD A BETTER PLACE THAN THEY FOUND IT.

THE FACT THAT I STAND HERE TODAY -- THE CHILD OF AN
IMMIGRANT -- IS PROOF THAT AMERICA'S DREAMS DO COME TRUE.

AND THE FACT THAT I STAND HERE TODAY AS THE FIRST WOMAN

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CANDIDATE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS PROOF
THAT NEW DOORS ARE OPENING, OLD BARRIERS ARE COMING DOWN, AND
THAT AMERICA BELONGS TO US ALL.

LEVELLING WITH THE PEOPLE

I OWE THIS COUNTRY A GREAT DEAL. IT'S A WONDERFUL
COUNTRY, AND I'M PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN. IN FACT, I LOVE
~~THIS COUNTRY ENOUGH TO TRY AND IMPROVE IT.~~

~~No American~~

~~WE WOULD NOT SIT IDLY BY IF OUR CHILDREN COULD NOT FEED~~

~~THEIR FAMILIES, CLOTHE THEIR CHILDREN OR FIND A JOB.~~

And all of us like to boast about our country

BUT THIS ADMINISTRATION IS CONTENT TO SIT ON THE
SIDELINES LEADING A CHORUS OF ~~THE~~ CHEERLEADERS WHO TURN OUT
GLOSSY COMMERCIALS AND ~~WASTE~~ ^{self-consum} PATRIOTISM.

WE DON'T SEE A COMMERCIAL THAT SHOWS RONALD REAGAN
TALKING TO THE WORKING MEN AND WOMEN ABOUT TRYING TO BUY A
HOME TODAY. WE DON'T SEE HIM TALKING TO THE EIGHT MILLION
AMERICANS WITHOUT JOBS.

WE DON'T SEE FULL COLOR COMMERCIALS OF THE HUNDREDS OF
TOXIC WASTE SITES THREATENING AMERICAN COMMUNITIES FROM COAST
TO COAST.

~~FOR RONALD REAGAN THESE PEOPLE AND THESE PROBLEMS DO NOT~~

~~IT~~ WE NEED, ^{what} AN ADMINISTRATION THAT WILL GIVE US STRAIGHT TALK, NOT HALF TRUTHS.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT THEIR LEADERS TO TELL IT LIKE IT IS. THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT DO THAT.

WALTER MONDALE AND I HAVE GIVEN YOU THE UNVARNISHED TRUTH. WE LAID OUT OUR PLAN TO REDUCE THE DEFICIT BY TWO THIRDS. WE GAVE YOU DETAILS, NOT EXCUSES.

THE REPUBLICANS SAY IT'S NOT SMART POLITICS TO GET TOO SPECIFIC ABOUT PLANS FOR BRINGING DOWN DEFICITS. AND MAYBE THEY'RE RIGHT. BUT AS LEADERS WE HAVE THE OBLIGATION TO TELL PEOPLE NOT ONLY WHAT THEY WANT TO HEAR BUT ALSO WHAT THEY NEED TO KNOW. UNFORTUNATELY, REAGAN ISN'T DOING THAT.

IN 1980, CANDIDATE REAGAN SAID, AND I QUOTE, "FOR DECADES WE HAVE PILED DEFICIT UPON DEFICIT, MORTGAGING OUR FUTURE AND OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE FOR THE TEMPORARY CONVENIENCE OF THE PRESENT. TO CONTINUE THIS TREND IS TO GUARANTEE TREMENDOUS SOCIAL, CULTURAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC UPHEAVALS."

about a 60% hike

THAT WAS CANDIDATE REAGAN IN 1980. BUT PRESIDENT REAGAN SINGS A DIFFERENT TUNE. FIRST, HE SAYS ~~HE~~ DEFICITS DON'T MATTER. THEN HE ~~MMME~~ BLAMES THE DEMOCRATS. AND NOW HE SAYS THE DEFICITS ARE BIG ENOUGH TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES.

INSERT

WHEN IT COMES TO TAXES, IT'S THE SAME RUNAROUND. FIRST, MR. REAGAN SAYS HE WON'T RAISE TAXES. THEN MR. BUSH SAYS THEY WILL RAISE TAXES. THEN MR. REAGAN SAYS MAYBE THEY WILL. FINALLY, THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM SAYS THEY'RE ~~MMMM~~ GOING TO REDUCE TAXES BY \$160 BILLION FOR THEIR RICH FRIENDS. AT LAST, A PROMISE WE CAN BELIEVE.

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Fritz Mondale has just put his plan on the table, It's there for all to see, But Ronald Reagan still won't tell us how he plans to cut down these deficits,

Yesterday, he was asked to disclose his plans for balancing the budget, And in response, he blamed the deficits on Congress and asked reporters to "take a look at the budgets I've already submitted," as he put it,

Well, let's take a look at his budgets, In each year he has submitted budgets with extraordinary deficits, This year, the plan he sent to Congress for next year included a whopping deficit of 180 billion dollars,

I want to know if that is the President's idea of an acceptable deficit, And if it isn't, then let's see his plan for reducing deficits, I urge the President to come clean, Don't play politics with this issue, The deficit crisis we face is too serious to play with, But your plan on the table, right now, Mr. President, not after the election,

huge budget - vote

foreign

member of the House
The only Republican who voted for that budget was Jack Kemp. I like Jack, but he was wrong about supply-side economics, and he's wrong about Reagan's budget.

WHY ALL THIS DANCING AROUND? IF DEFICITS ARE BAD, THEN LET'S REDUCE THEM. IF THE BUDGET MUST BE SQUEEZED AND TAXES HAVE TO GO UP, THEN LET'S DO IT FAIRLY. AND IF OUR LEADERS WON'T LEVEL WITH US, THEN LET'S REPLACE THEM.

THE DEFICITS

IT'S NOT EASY TO TALK ABOUT THE DEFICIT, ~~ALTHOUGH IT IS GETTING A LITTLE BIG TO SWEEP UNDER THE RUG.~~ ~~STILL,~~ YOU CAN'T SEE IT ^{you can't, you can't touch it} OR SMELL IT, ~~YOU CAN'T TOUCH A DEFICIT,~~ ~~ALTHOUGH IT CAN TOUCH YOU.~~ *But you can feel it*

IN FACT, IT'S TOUCHING ALL OF US HERE IN SCRANTON. ASK THE COAL MINERS THROUGHOUT LUZERNE COUNTY WHETHER IT'S EASIER TO GET WORK WITH ^{interest rates caused by} 200 BILLION DOLLAR DEFICITS. ASK THE YOUNG FAMILY IN SCRANTON WHETHER IT'S EASIER TO FINANCE A NEW HOME WHEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS DRIVING UP INTEREST RATES BY SOAKING UP EVERY DOLLAR IT CAN GET ITS HANDS ON.

believe ASK THE ELDERLY THROUGHOUT PENNSYLVANIA WHETHER ^{with} THEY ~~TRUST~~ RONALD REAGAN ^{to} TREAT THEM FAIRLY ^{to} ~~WHEN HE STARTS TO~~ ~~BRING DOWN THE DEFICIT~~ AFTER THIS ELECTION. *to bring it back*

JUST LAST THURSDAY ONE OF RONALD REAGAN'S CLOSEST ADVISORS LAUNCHED ANOTHER ATTACK ON SOCIAL SECURITY SAYING THAT WHILE SOCIAL SECURITY STARTED OUT AS AN INSURANCE

PROGRAM IT'S NOW 'SIMPLY A TAXATION AND BENEFIT PROGRAM.'

WE KNOW IT'S A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS PEOPLE, BUT AFTER FOUR YEARS THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAS STILL NOT LEARNED TO RESPECT A ^{FIFTY} ~~SEVEN~~ YEAR AGREEMENT. DO YOU TRUST THEM TO LEARN BETWEEN NOW AND NOVEMBER 6TH?

EVERY AMERICAN IS AFFECTED BY THE RISING TIDE OF RED INK. WALTER MONDALE AND I WANT A FUTURE UNBURDENED BY HUGE DEFICITS. WE WANT AN ECONOMY FREE OF HIGH INTEREST RATES. WE WANT A SOCIETY WHERE NEW FAMILIES CAN BUY HOMES. WHERE PEOPLE CAN GO BACK TO WORK AND WHERE THE ELDERLY CAN RELAX AND ENJOY THEIR RETIREMENT.

If you want a President who will face up to the deficit and face it fairly, then elect Fritz Mondale in November,

A FAIR ECONOMY

AS WE START TO BRING DOWN THE DEFICIT, WE WILL ALSO BEGIN BUILDING AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ALL OF US. WHILE ~~THE REPUBLICANS HAVE RULED THE ROOST, THEY'VE SOLD-OFF THE RIGHTS TO THE AMERICAN DREAM TO THEIR RICH FRIENDS.~~

IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS, TAXES FOR THE WEALTHY HAVE BEEN SLASHED, WHILE AVERAGE FAMILIES ARE PAYING THE SAME OR EVEN MORE. SIX MILLION PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PUSHED BELOW THE POVERTY LINE BY AN ADMINISTRATION THAT BELIEVES IN THE SURVIVAL OF THE RICHEST.

TODAY, WE HAVE A GOVERNMENT OF THE RICH, BY THE RICH AND
FOR THE RICH. WHAT WE NEED IS A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY
THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

~~BECAUSE THE AMERICAN DREAM BELONGS TO ALL OF US~~ WE MUST
WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD AN ECONOMY THAT LEAVES OUT NO GROUP
AND NO REGION. WE MUST NOT TELL COAL WORKERS OR TEXTILE
WORKERS THAT THEIR DAY IS PAST. ~~WE MUST NOT TRY TO CHASE~~

of steel workers *Those industries are the*
~~THEM AWAY FROM THE DOOR OF OPPORTUNITY.~~
bedrock of our economy. And if we can't save every job,
then we have an obligation to train workers for new jobs.

AND THAT'S WHY A MONDALE-FERRARO ADMINISTRATION WILL
WORK FOR AN EDUCATION SYSTEM THAT WORKS FOR US ALL. WE HAVE
ALWAYS MOVED UP THE LADDER OF SUCCESS THROUGH EDUCATION. AND
WE MUST KEEP THAT LADDER STURDY FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS.

UNFORTUNATELY, UNDER THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION WE HAVE
HAD A RIVER OF RHETORIC, BUT ONLY A TRICKLE OF HELP FOR OUR
SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES. INSTEAD OF HELPING STUDENTS AND
TEACHERS HERE ON EARTH, RONALD REAGAN WANTS TO LAUNCH
TEACHERS INTO SPACE.

THE ONLY THING I WORRY ABOUT IF WE SEND TEACHERS INTO
SPACE IS THAT THEY MAY RUN INTO THIS ADMINISTRATION'S MILE
HIGH DEFICITS. AND WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE ANY GOOD
TEACHERS.

*We want to make a new investment in
education. If you elect Fritz Mondale, you'll have the
most pro-education President in American history.*

CONCLUSION

THIS NATION MUST ALWAYS BE A LAND OF OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY AMERICAN WHO WORKS HARD. THE MOST PATRIOTIC ACT YOU AND I CAN PERFORM IS TO MAKE AMERICA A LAND THAT OFFERS A CHANCE FOR ALL OF US TO SUCCEED.

MR. REAGAN PREACHES PATRIOTISM. HE TALKS ABOUT LOVE OF COUNTRY, AND I AGREE. BUT I SAY, LET'S LOVE OUR COUNTRYMEN AND ~~COUNTRY~~ WOMEN TOO. LET'S PUT PEOPLE BACK TO WORK. LET'S ENFORCE THE LAWS, PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND KEEP THE PEACE. THAT'S THE BEST WAY WE CAN HONOR OUR FLAG.

THE TIME TO BEGIN THAT WORK IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO REGISTER NEW VOTERS IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO KEEP SOCIAL SECURITY SAFE IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO CREATE NEW JOBS IS NOT LATER . IT'S NOW.

THE TIME TO CLEAN UP TOXIC DUMPS IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

AND THE TIME TO ELECT FRITZ MONDALE IS NOT LATER. IT'S NOW.

LET'S GO OUT THERE AND WIN THIS ELECTION . NOT LATER,

But now.