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Reagan & Bush

Reagan Bush Committee

901 South Highland Street, Arlington, Virginia 22204 (703) 685-3400

NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE UPON DELIVERY:

Thursday, October 2, 1980

CONTACT: Lyn Nofziger or
Ken Towery
703-685-3630

STATEMENT BY GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN
CYCLOPS STEEL MILL - PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

All across this country I've seen a hope for renewed growth, for progress, and for recovery from a depressing four years of economic stagnation.

I've found that hope has a home here at Cyclops Steel, too, where specialty steel is being rolled into the products for building a better economic future for our country.

What you do at Cyclops Steel is something more than making the best steel in the world--you are making a commitment, every single day, to your family and to our country. You have pride not only in what you do, but in who you are--Americans. That's the kind of pride your family passed on to you and you are now passing on to your children. And it's a well-deserved pride fueled by the hope for a better future.

That hope has been badly damaged these past few years. But the man whose policies have produced much of your economic misery now tries to tell you that he's the one to make your future brighter.

You heard that old song once before--back in 1976. Candidate Carter made probably more campaign promises than any presidential candidate in history, and when challenged on them, he said simply, "trust me." Well, we trusted him, and now, as President, he's broken probably more promises than any President in U.S. history. Here in Pittsburgh, and statewide, you've suffered the effects of Carter's broken promises as much as anywhere in the country.

- more -

In 1976, Mr. Carter promised never to use unemployment to fight inflation. Yet this year, he did exactly that, in an unsuccessful attempt to end the price spiral. As a result, two million Americans have lost their jobs nationwide. Here in Pittsburgh, the unemployment rate has jumped from 5.1 percent just a year ago to 8.6 percent today.

In 1976, Mr. Carter promised an inflation rate of 4 percent. Today, it's three times that great. And in Pittsburgh, the consumer price index is increasing at a 15 percent annual rate.

In 1977, he promised to dramatically increase coal production. But over the past four years, U.S. coal output has increased at an average of only about 5 percent per year. In East Pennsylvania, where I visited yesterday, the coal industry still hasn't recovered from this administration's consistent overregulation of energy production.

The record is clear: this administration does not keep its promises. Yet in the last month, you've heard a whole new series of promises. Just two days ago, Mr. Carter finally realized there's a steel industry in this country, and that it's in deep trouble, battered by inflation at home and foreign imports from abroad.

To show that he hasn't forgotten that steelworkers vote, he had a special set of promises just for you. Here's what he said: we'll--quote--"modernize our industrial capacity, advance our technology, create new jobs and skills, rebuild our transportation system, reduce our energy dependence, and regain our competitive edge--all at the same time."

That's quite a list, and I'm sure we all agree with it, but have just one question: if he now thinks we need to do all these things, why didn't he start doing them four years ago? Does he want us to believe someone else has been in charge these last four years?

He waited until 22 days ago to start talking about steel, when he visited New Jersey to commemorate the opening of a

non-union steel plant in Perth Amboy. Let's hope we also have a few new union steel plants in the years ahead.

Then on Tuesday, Mr. Carter made his second political gesture to steelworkers by unveiling a steel plan which is more than a little like a steel recovery proposal I made on September 16. Now I know imitation is the sincerest form of flattery and I don't mind his borrowing my proposal if it will help the steel industry. But I have an uneasy feeling he might not have done anything if I hadn't raised the issue. Well, all right, let's see if we can get him to do more.

I believe the answer to our steel problems lie in the minds and hearts and skills and energies of the people who make steel. Americans make the best steel in the world, and I think it's time we allowed our steel industry to be competitive, to grow, and to show the world the high-quality steel it can make.

We first need to encourage investment in the steel industry by accelerating depreciation schedules. American companies are placed at a disadvantage because they have to wait twelve years to write off their investments, while in some countries, investments can be written off in as little as one or two years. Only if we accelerate our depreciation schedules can we allow American steel companies to accumulate the money they need to invest, and become more competitive in world markets. They need to combat the over-regulation of American industry. The steel industry is governed by more than 5,000 regulations. And that's a regulatory load that needs to be reduced.

Now no one quarrels with the goal of protecting the environment. But we must also protect our economic environment, which allows our people to enjoy the natural beauty around them. We should not implement policies and timetables which force steel mills to close down because the plants can no longer operate economically. We must strike a reasonable balance between the need for jobs and the need to protect the environment.

Third, we need to enforce the laws which prohibit foreign governments from dumping subsidized goods in America. Subsidized foreign imports reduce American sales and profits, and make it even harder for companies to raise the money they need to invest.

To better enforce these laws I favor reinstating the Trigger Price Mechanism for steel. As we restore this protection against subsidized foreign imports, we must act vigorously to negotiate reductions in foreign subsidies and trade barriers whenever possible.

For a generation, steelworkers and steel companies have been the scapegoats for government-caused inflation. Those in Washington attack the steel industry to show the public how they want to hold down prices.

But the steel industry is not to blame. Unless it is allowed to earn a reasonable profit on its investments and sales, it will be unable to generate the funds necessary to modernize and become more competitive. Without this investment, American steelworkers' jobs will remain in jeopardy, and American mills will continue to close.

These are the steps I believe we need to take to revitalize the steel industry. I'm glad Mr. Carter repeated these ideas on Tuesday.

But there is a significant difference between Mr. Carter's exercise in follow-the-leader politics and the plan I presented. I have long believed in the goals I announced two weeks ago: the prevention of dumping, increased investment, and balanced environmental protection. For Mr. Carter to adopt them now, however, amounts to not only his running away from his own record, but literally running against it.

Last April, he thought so little of the Trigger Price Mechanism, he suspended it. Now, with the election only five weeks away, he wants it reinstated.

For almost the entire year, he has vigorously opposed tax reductions. Now, with the steel industry's economic troubles

causing political troubles in key electoral states, he wants accelerated depreciation.

Since 1977, his administration has ignored the problems overly strict compliance schedules have caused the steel industry. Now, with American steel's competitiveness falling dangerously low in an election year, he wants to stretch out compliance times.

It's a complete turnabout, a move, I suspect, designed more to provide political recovery for the Carter campaign than economic recovery for the steel industry. And America's labor union members--especially steelworkers--should ask themselves: Can you really believe it?

This administration's policies have, for three and one-half years, crippled the steel industry. Now, with the election nearing, they've had a change of heart. But if Mr. Carter is reelected, will steelworkers find the promises of September forgotten in December? I don't believe we are being too cynical in view of the record when we ask that question.

This year, I think Mr. Carter's going to be surprised that his promises aren't accepted at face value anymore. That some see them as an effort to win votes with election year conversions.

We need to make American steel more competitive in world markets. We need to reduce the 13 percent unemployment steelworkers now face. And we need to get the economy moving again, so there will be an increased demand for American steel.

Beginning next January 20, with your support, we will start achieving these goals.

I am convinced we can do these things, and with your help, we will.

* * * * *

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And throughout his term, he has promised a strong defense. Yet today we have a hollow army, a hollow navy, and an ICBM force vulnerable to a Soviet first strike. Perhaps Mr. Carter should study your football team's "Steel Curtain" to find out what a strong defense really means.

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Since 1977, his administration has ignored the problems overly strict compliance schedules have caused the steel industry. Now, with American steel's competitiveness falling dangerously low in an election year, he wants to stretch out compliance times.

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This administration's policies have, for three and one-half years, crippled the steel industry. Now, with the election nearing, they've had a change of heart. But if Mr. Carter is reelected, steel workers may well find the promises of September long forgotten by December.

Consider Mr. Carter's record of broken promises, and then look again at Mr. Carter's promises to you.

I'm reminded of an old Irish proverb. If a man fools you once,

shame on him,. If he fools you twice, shame on you.

This year, I think Mr. Carter's going to be surprised that his false promises won't work a second time. For this administration, desperately seeking reelection, is trying to win votes with its election year conversions. I don't think it's believable, especially in view of the broken promises from 1976. And I don't think the American people believe it either.

We need to make American steel more competitive in world markets. We need to reduce the 13% unemployment steelworkers now face. And we need to get the economy moving again, so there's an increased demand for American steel.

Beginning next January 20, with your support, we will start achieving these goals.

I am convinced we can do these things, and with your help, we will.

1 - DRAFT - CYCLOPS STEEL

FIRST DRAFT

(KH/DB/KK/WFG)

October 1, 1980

CYCLOPS STEEL, PENNSYLVANIA

All across this country I've seen a hope for renewed growth for progress, for jobs, and for recovery from a depressing four years of economic stagnation.

I've found that hope has a home here at Cyclops Steel, too, where specialty steel is being rolled into the products for building a better economic future for our country.

You do more at Cyclops Steel than just make the best steel in the world--you make a contribution every single day, to your family and to our country. You have pride not only in what you do, but in who you are--Americans. It's a pride that you've earned. It's also the kind of pride that your family passed on to you and which you are now passing on to your children. And it's a pride fueled by the hope for a better future.

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than a copy of the steel recovery proposal I issued on September 16. I don't know whether to be flattered by his imitation, or ashamed to think that the President of the United States might not have even mentioned the problems of the steel industry unless I'd made the first move.

But let us tell you what I think needs to be done for American steel.

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Finally, for a generation, steelworkers and steel companies have been the scapegoats for government-caused inflation. Those in Washington attack the steel industry to show the public how they want to hold down prices.

But the steel industry is not to blame. Unless it is allowed to earn a reasonable profit on its investments and sales, it will be unable to generate the funds necessary to modernize and become

more competitive. Without this investment, American steelworkers' jobs will remain in jeopardy, and American mills will continue to close.

These are the steps I believe we need to take to revitalize the steel industry. I'm glad Mr. Carter agrees, because he repeated these basic ideas on Thursday.

But there is a significant difference between Mr. Carter's exercise in follow-the-leader politics and the plan I presented. I have long believed in the goals I announced two weeks ago: the prevention of unfair dumping, increased investment, and balanced environmental protection. For Mr. Carter to adopt them now, however, amounts to not only his running away from his own record, but literally running against it.

For example, last April, he thought so little of the trigger price mechanism that he suspended it. Now, with the election only five weeks away, he wants it reinstated.

For almost the entire year he has vigorously opposed tax reductions, and has stalled accelerated depreciation legislation in Congress. Now, with the steel industry's economic troubles causing political troubles in key electoral states, he wants accelerated depreciation.

Since 1977, his administration has ignored the problems overly strict environmental compliance schedules have caused the steel industry. Now, with American steel's competitiveness

falling dangerously low in an election yer, he wants to stretch out compliance times.

And just last week, your two fine senators disclosed a memo written by a high-level Carter appointee to the EPA director which called the steel industry a "lemon industry." Maybe Mr. Carter's administration really wanted to give up on the steel industry. But two days ago, they apparently remembered the election was only five weeks away.

Mr. Carter's complete turnabout is, I suspect, designed more to provide for the political recovery of the Carter campaign than for the economic recovery of the steel industry. And America's labor union members--especially steelworkers--should ask themselves: Can you really believe it?

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8 - DRAFT - CYCLOPS STEEL

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I am convinced we can do these things, and with your help, we will.

(end of draft)

TO: Jim Brady, Lyn Nofziger, Martin Anderson
Mike Deaver.

D. Gergen draft

FROM: It is strongly recommend that this be used as an early
A.M. statement on Thursday 2 Oct. garrick

BUDGET STATEMENT FOR THURSDAY, OCT. 2, 1980

Dep'd 412-928-0282
10/1, 9:15 pm
Bill Hart

For the past two days, we have been treated to the spectacle
of Dem^crats in Congress rushing through ~~an~~ emergency, stopgap
~~budget~~ laws to keep the government running while they leave town
today for a campaign holiday.

Like so many other things in Washington these days, this
looks like a circ^s but ~~in fact~~ ^{really} is a very sad story for American
taxpayers.

Essentially, the Democratic leadership -- in cahoots with
the ~~the~~ White House -- has passed this emergency legislation so
that they won't ~~be~~ have to pass a real budget until the elections are
over.

Now, why would they do a funny thing like that? For
obvious reasons: they know ^{that yet once again,} they can't balance the budget ~~and~~
and they want to hide the truth from the American people.

Well, they can run but they can't hide.

They can't hide the fact that this week, the United States
ended a fiscal year with the single ~~big~~ biggest budget deficit
in our history -- a deficit ^{already} ~~sure to~~ refuel ^{ing} the fires of inflation.

They can't hide the fact that under Jimmy Carter, our
national debt has increased more than 40 percent.

They can't hide the fact ~~and~~ that because of their gross mis-
management, inflation rages in the double digits and interest
rates are starting to shoot up again.

And they can't hide the fact that American taxpayers will be paying for their mistakes for years to come.

There is only one man in America with the power to solve these problems this week -- Jimmy Carter. Either he should act like a real President, keeping the Congress in Washington until it gets this budget passed, or he ~~should~~ should go before ~~the~~ the country and confess something we have suspected all along: he just isn't up to the job.

Doc # 412-928-0282
Bill Hart 10/1, 9:20 pm

TO: Marty Anderson

From: Bob Garrick 1 Oct.

As per our conversation re the religious broadcasters speech
the Governor should make an opening statment something like
this.

"Before I answer any questions I would like to make a statement --"

at the close of the statement the following or something similar-

Thank you Ben Armstrong - and now for those questions --

This reportedly will give the needed protection from the
equal time problem.

TO: Jim Brady, Lynn Nofziger, Martin Anderson
Mike Deaver.
FROM: Bob Garrick
1 Oct 1980. -
Insert coming

1 - DRAFT - CYCLOPS STEEL

OK
~~ring~~
Jed Bell Hart
10/1/80 - 9:28-0282
(KH/DB/KK/WFG) 10/1, 8:20pm

October 1, 1980

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Second, we need to combat the over-regulation of American industry. The steel industry is governed by some 5,000 regulations. And that's a regulatory load that needs to be reduced.

Now no one quarrels with the goal of protecting the environment. But we must also protect our economic environment, which allows our people to enjoy the natural beauty around them. We should not implement policies and timetables which force steel mills to close down because the plants could no longer operate economically. Instead, we must strike a reasonable balance between the needs for jobs and the need to protect the environment.

Third, we need to enforce the laws which prohibit foreign governments from unfairly dumping subsidized goods in America. Subsidized foreign imports reduce American sales and profits, and make it even harder for companies to raise the money needed to invest and hire workers.

To better enforce these laws I favor reinstating the Trigger Price Mechanism for steel, including specialty steel. As we restore this protection against unfairly subsidized foreign imports, we must act vigorously to negotiate reductions in foreign subsidies and trade barriers whenever possible.

Finally, for a generation, steelworkers and steel companies have been the scapegoats for government-caused inflation. Those in Washington attack the steel industry to show the public how they want to hold down prices.

But the steel industry is not to blame. Unless it is allowed to earn a reasonable profit on its investments and sales, it will be unable to generate the funds necessary to modernize and become

more competitive. Without this investment, American steelworkers' jobs will remain in jeopardy, and American mills will continue to close.

These are the steps I believe we need to take to revitalize the steel industry. I'm glad Mr. Carter agrees, because he repeated these basic ideas on Thursday.

But there is a significant difference between Mr. Carter's exercise in follow-the-leader politics and the plan I presented. I have long believed in the goals I announced two weeks ago: the prevention of unfair dumping, increased investment, and balanced environmental protection. For Mr. Carter to adopt them now, however, amounts to not only his running away from his own record, but literally running against it.

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Since 1977, his administration has ignored the problems overly strict environmental compliance schedules have caused the steel industry. Now, with American steel's competitiveness

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And just last week, your two fine senators disclosed a memo written by a high-level Carter appointee to the EPA director which called the steel industry a "lemon industry." Maybe Mr. Carter's administration really wanted to give up on the steel industry. But two days ago, they apparently remembered the election was only five weeks away.

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8 - DRAFT - CYCLOPS STEEL

votes with its election year conversions. I don't believe it especially in view of the broken promises from 1976. And I don't think the American people believe it either.

We need to make American steel more competitive in world markets. We need to reduce the 13 percent unemployment steelworkers now face. And we need to get the economy moving again, so there's an increased demand for American steel.

Beginning next January 20, with your support, we will start achieving these goals.

I am convinced we can do these things, and with your help, we will.

(end of draft)

insert page 2 before Jan 1977, he promised

INSERT FOR CYCLOPS STEEL SPEECH

In 1976, Mr. Carter promised to balance the budget within four years. Well, the fourth year ended this Tuesday -- and Mr. Carter gave us the biggest budget deficit in American history. And today, in a dismal lack of leadership, ~~xxx~~ he is permitting the Congress to go home on campaign holiday without passing a real budget for the coming year -- just so they can hide the fact that ~~xxx~~ there are more huge deficits in store for us.

1 - CYCLOPS STEEL, PA - DRAFT SPEECH

*Sent to Me York
unauthorized
1st draft*

FIRST DRAFT - WFG

Garvin

October 1, 1980

CYCLOPS STEEL, PENNSYLVANIA - DRAFT

All across this country I've been bringing a message of hope, of growth and of progress.

Nowhere is that message more at home than here at Cyclops Steel, where hot specialty steel is being rolled to build a better future for the nation and the world.

What you do ~~every day~~ at Cyclops Steel is something more than making the best steel in the world--you are making a commitment, every single day, to your family and to our country. You have pride not only in what you do but in who you are--Americans. That's the kind of pride your family passed on to you and you are passing on to your children.

But even that great pride cannot withstand four more years of the kind of battering it has received under Mr. Carter.

In the Pittsburgh area, in the first six months of 1976, the consumer pride index rose at a rate of 5.4 percent. ^{BUT} The consumer price index for the first six months of 1980 in the Pittsburgh area rose at an annual rate of 15 percent. † That is only part of Mr. Carter's record of failure. He doesn't want to talk about his record. But whether he does or not you know what his failed economic policies have done to your paychecks, your children's

future, your hopes and dreams, the fixed incomes of your parents or grandparents.

And I don't have to tell you what Carter unemployment has done to the families of steel-workers. It is an American tragedy.

In fact, nowhere are the economic problems of our nation more evident than in the states which form the industrial heartland of America. Thousands upon thousands of auto and steel workers are out of work. In fact, ~~the Washington Star~~^{IT USES} reported last Friday that employment in the steel industry in July was the lowest ever recorded since figures were first compiled in the depths of the Great Depression.

There are millions of Americans like you, who, in other industries, in other jobs, ~~we~~ share ~~with you~~ this sense of frustration and, yes, despair, at what's been happening to the most productive people in history under Mr. Carter's administration.

That's what this campaign is all about: Are we going to have four more years of pessimism, lack of hope, loss of jobs, high inflation, high interest and despair? ^{ARE WE GOING TO STAY TOGETHER} Or, a future that is based on our traditional national capacity for getting the job done and doing it right--the first time.

Mr. Carter has been in office for three and a half years. And on last Tuesday, he finally got around to the problems in the steel industry.

Actually all he's doing is playing a game of follow the leader because on such matters as accelerating depreciation schedules and easing environmental requirements, he is doing nothing more than following suggestions I made earlier in the campaign. I know imitation is the sincerest form of flattery but most of us would prefer that Mr. Carter stop flattering and start leading.

If you want to know what the Carter administration really thinks about the steel industry, let me read to you the words of a high-level Carter appointee in the Environmental Protection Agency. In a memo to the administrator of that agency this Carter appointee said about your industry:

"To offer subsidies to an industry in which the United States no longer has a competitive advantage would be the worst possible economic policy. It would drain our resources and put us firmly on the path toward lemon socialism."

That the essential difference between Mr. Carter's view of the steel industry and mine: he has given up on steel. He has given up on you. He believes in government ^{PROTECTION} ~~subsidies~~. He believes that subsidies are the only answer to steel's problems.

I believe that the answer to steel problems lie in the minds and hearts and skills and energies of the people who make steel. The solution to our steel problems is for our steel industry to be competitive, to grow, to show what it can do to the world.

4 - CYCLOPS STEEL, PA - DRAFT SPEECH

I do not believe the steel industry is a lemon. I believe it is part of your lives and part of the ~~PEACE~~ tradition of growth in this country and I'm going to see to it that it is allowed to grow.

Mr. Carter, as I said, has finally come around to listening to what I have been saying. ~~Don't worry however~~ Next week, ^{NE DEPT} he'll have a difference ~~de~~ policy. But I want to outline what I believe we can do and must do--not just talk about, but do--to help steel become competitive once more.

The first step to encourage investment in the steel industry is to accelerate depreciation schedules. American companies are placed at a disadvantage because foreign companies are allowed to write-off their investments in a shorter period of time. Accelerating the schedules will assist American companies to accumulate the money necessary to invest.

The second step is to combat the over-regulation of American industry. The steel industry is governed by some 5,000 regulations. We must begin to reduce this regulatory load.

Now no one quarrels with the objective of protecting the environment. But we must also protect our economic environment, which allows our people to enjoy their natural environment. We should not implement policies and timetables which force steel mills to close down because the plants would no longer be economical to operate. Instead, we must strike a reasoned balance between the needs of the environment and of jobs.

5 - CYCLOPS STEEL, PA - DRAFT SPEECH

The third step is to enforce the laws which prohibit foreign governments from dumping subsidized goods in America. Such subsidized foreign imports have been underselling American steel, leading to lost sales and profits. This has made it even harder for companies to raise the money necessary to invest.

The solution is to strictly enforce anti-dumping and anti-subsidy laws. We will not prohibit foreign imports. What we will prohibit are imports that are unfairly subsidized by foreign governments. American mills have always been ready and willing to meet--and beat--fair foreign competition.

To better enforce these laws, the Trigger Price Mechanism should be reinstated, including specialty steel. Once we restore this protection against foreign imports, we must move to eliminate foreign subsidies and trade barriers whenever possible.

For a generation, the steel worker and company have been the scapegoats for government-caused inflation. Those in Washington attack the steel industry to show the public how they want to hold down prices.

But the steel industry is not to blame. Unless it is allowed to earn a reasonable profit on its investments and sales, it will be unable to generate the funds necessary for investment in plant modernization and expansion. Without investment in modernization and expansion, American steelworkers will continue to lose their jobs, and American mills will continue to close.

6 - CYCLOPS STEEL, PA - DRAFT SPEECH

America needs a modern, world-class industry. My administration will take the steps necessary to improve and preserve it.

1 - DRAFT - CYCLOPS STEEL

FIRST DRAFT

(KH/DB/KK/WFG)

October 1, 1980

CYCLOPS STEEL, PENNSYLVANIA

All across this country I've seen a hope for renewed growth for progress, for jobs, and for recovery from a depressing four years of economic stagnation.

I've found that hope has a home here at Cyclops Steel, too, where specialty steel is being rolled into the products for building a better economic future for our country.

You do more at Cyclops Steel than just make the best steel in the world--you make a contribution every single day, to your family and to our country. You have pride not only in what you do, but in who you are--Americans. It's a pride that you've earned. It's also the kind of pride that your family passed on to you and which you are now passing on to your children. And it's a pride fueled by the hope for a better future.

That hope has been badly shaken these past few years. But the man whose policies have produced much of your economic misery is now trying to tell you that he's the one to make your future brighter.

You heard that old song once before--back in 1976. Candidate Carter made probably more campaign promises than any presidential

candidate in history, and when challenged on them, he said simply, "trust me." Well we trusted him, and now, as President, he's broken probably more promises than any President in U.S. history. Here in Pittsburgh, and statewide, you've suffered the disastrous effects of Carter's broken promises as much as anyone, anywhere in the country.

In 1976, Mr. Carter promised never to use unemployment to fight inflation. Yet this year, he did exactly that, in an unsuccessful attempt to end the price spiral. As a result, two million Americans have lost their jobs nationwide. Here in Pittsburgh the unemployment rate has jumped from 5.1 percent just a year ago to 8.6 percent today.

In 1976, Mr. Carter promised an inflation rate of 4 percent. Today, it's three times that great. And in Pittsburgh, the consumer price index is increasing at a 15 percent annual rate.

In 1976, Mr. Carter promised to balance the budget. Yet he has just presided over the largest deficit, including off-budget items, in American history--\$77 billion. In 1977, he promised to dramatically increase coal production. But over the past four years, U.S. coal output has increased at an average of only about 5 percent per year. In East Pennsylvania, where I visited yesterday, the coal industry still hasn't recovered from this administration's consistent overregulation of energy production.

And throughout his term, he has promised a strong defense. Yet today we have a hollow army, a hollow navy, and an ICBM force

potentially vulnerable to a Soviet first strike. Perhaps Mr. Carter should study your football team's "Steel Curtain" to find out what a strong defense really means.

The record is clear: this administration does not keep its promises. Yet in the last month, you've heard a whole new series of promises. Just two days ago, Mr. Carter finally realized there's a steel industry in this country, and that it's in deep trouble, battered by his inflation at home and unfairly-dumped foreign imports from abroad.

To show that he hasn't forgotten that steelworkers vote, he had a special set of promises just for you. Here's what he said: we'll--quote--"modernize our industrial capacity, advance our technology, create new jobs and skills, rebuild our transportation system, reduce our energy dependence, and regain our competitive edge--all at the same time."

That's quite a list, and I'm sure we all agree with it, but I have just one question: if he now thinks we need to do all these things, why didn't he start doing them four years ago? Where was he for four years?

No, he waited until 22 days ago to start talking about steel, when he visited New Jersey to commemorate the opening of a non-union steel plant in Perth Amboy. Let's hope we also have a few new union steel plants in the years ahead.

Then on Tuesday, Mr. Carter made his second political gesture to steelworkers by unveiling a steel plan which is little more

than a copy of the steel recovery proposal I issued on September 16. I don't know whether to be flattered by his imitation, or ashamed to think that the President of the United States might not have even mentioned the problems of the steel industry unless I'd made the first move.

But let us tell you what I think needs to be done for American steel.

I believe the answer to our steel problems lie in the minds and hearts and skills and energies of the people who make steel. Americans make the best steel in the world, and I think it's time we allowed our steel industry to be competitive, to grow, and to show the world the high-quality steel it can make.

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