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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:

Monday, October 6, 1980

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

REMARKS BY GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN

CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY

This week, I want to discuss some of the issues Mr. Carter has utterly refused to talk about in this campaign. I call them the missing issues, because they are the problems which most concern our people, and they need to be addressed. Yet this administration has adopted a new form of campaigning in order to avoid them. It attempts to make invisible the issues most important to the voters, attempts to hide its record, and tries to sneak through to another term.

We aren't going to let Mr. Carter and his crew get away with this, because the American people deserve better. I intend to expose these missing issues over the next weeks, beginning with the one most painful to all Americans--the continuing disaster of inflation.

In 1976, this administration promised to do something about inflation--it did. It increased it from 4.8 percent in 1976 to 12.2 percent today. And it hasn't stopped there. Both inflation and interest rates are on the upswing again, and are headed still higher in the future.

This is a dismal record, one impossible to defend. And this is why the Carter administration has spent the better part of this campaign seeking to blame everyone but themselves for the tragic economic problems that we face.

Indeed, most recently, they have taken to making highly questionable use of official government statistics to sugar coat the bitter economic news that has regularly come from Washington.

Just last week, the administration trumpeted the news that the Producer Price Index had fallen by two-tenths of a percent in September. In point of fact, the only reason for the drop in the Producer Price Index is that for the

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first time in the history of these statistics, this administration changed the ground rules for the manner in which the figures were to be calculated.

For people looking for a shred of hope; for those looking for only a brief respite from the day-in and day-out pounding of high mortgages and high prices--the creative use of statistics by this administration is going to prove to be a cruel hoax.

Had the administration used the same formula which had been used for years to calculate the figures, the September figures would have shown the economy to be worsening. It would have shown that over the last three months, the real rise in this inflation index has been an alarming 15 percent per year.

Measured by the way this administration has used the "Imperial Incumbency" over the past year, I am not surprised at the recent "Jimmying" of official governmental statistics. To put things in perspective, I want you to know that this formula was just changed for one month, September. Next month, after the election is over, the government will go back to the previous formula.

Well, I'd like to think that next month will also be the beginning of a whole new approach to economic questions. What we need is a change in the economy, and not a change in the statistics. The problem of this administration is not numbers, it's people--people who are no longer able to take the relentless financial damage that Jimmy Carter hands out.

They want hope and leadership and a future that means something, and that's what this election is all about.

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CAMDEN INSERT

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In one of the most cynical abuses of government power in memory, the Carter Administration last week trumpeted the news that the Producer Price Index had fallen by two-tenths of a percent in September.

But it didn't really happen.

To make it appear that things are getting better, the Administration actually changed the rules which have been used for years by both Democratic and Republican Administrations to determine how the Index is calculated.

The Carter Administration is "Jimmying" the figures one month before the election, in a desperate attempt to win votes.

This exercise in creative bookkeeping borders on outright fraud.

Before this Administration, it was the belief of both major parties that economic statistics like the Producer Price Index must not be manipulated in the interest of partisan politics. But in yet another desperation move, even these statistics are being dragooned into service in an attempt to disguise the continuing crisis.

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In fact, economist Michael Evans estimates that if the Administration had calculated the producer price index correctly, inflation would have jumped at a double-digit annualized rate for the fourth month in a row and would have followed on the heels of two straight months of 20% producer price inflation.

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The Carter Administration should now be brought before the bar of public opinion. Let the people judge if they want to give four more years to this kind of shabby politics.

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Camden
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Bob Gray

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Paid for by Reagan Bush Committee, United States Senator Paul Laxalt, Chairman, New Hampshire Treasury

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TO: Jim Brady/ Mike Deaver/ Lyn Nofziger/ Marty Anderson

From: Bob Garrick /

This updates you on the missing issues we will be working.

Sent
11:00 A.
10/5
B.M.

OK
sent
garrick
15 Oct
1100

October 5, 1980

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Bob Garrick
Bill Gavin
Kevin Hopkins

RE: Five Missing Issues

The focus this week is on economic issues. We suggest a creative way to tie these issues together in a unified manner is the "missing issues" theme, as explained in the first two paragraphs of the Camden draft.

The planned missing issues for the week are:

Monday	Camden	Inflation/Producer Price Index
Tuesday	Oxford Mall	Standard of Living
Wednesday	Youngstown	Regulation (Coal and Steel Plant visit)
Thursday	Birmingham	Taxation*
Friday	Tampa	Control of Federal Spending

*IRS just released a report saying that middle income Americans make up 38.2% of taxpaying population, but pay 60.1% of the taxes. We can play on this theme.

X X X

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TO: Mike Deaver / Lyn Nofziger/Martin Anderson/Jim Brady

FROM: Robert M. Garrick / Director Policy & Development & Research

We are planning to use this basic thrust for the coming week.

Also behind the 8 ball as we owe you 3 speeches for Monday tomorrow.

Garrick

FIVE MISSING ISSUES

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*Sent
10/5
11:25 A
H.M.*

We aren't going to let Mr. Carter and his crew get away with this, because the American people deserve better. I intend to expose these five missing issues these week, beginning with probably the most important -- inflation.

*OK
garrick
out
0915
5 Oct '80*

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