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**Collection:** Reagan, Ronald: 1980 Campaign Papers,  
1965-1980

**Series:** XV: Speech Files (Robert Garrick and Bill Gavin)

**Subseries:** A: Bob Garrick File

**Folder Title:** 10/13/1980, Fountain Valley Cal Tour

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*reportedly* Oct. 13  
*sent to* FOUNTAIN VALLEY (TD)  
*22 plane.* ~~PM 10 Oct.~~

In 1976, Mr. Carter pledged to hold inflation and unemployment at 4 %. He promised he would balance the budget by 1980.

Today we have double digit inflation, more than 7% unemployment and a budget wildly out of balance. We have in short the most disastrous economic conditions since the Great Depression.

At the heart of Mr. Carter's failure to ~~deal with~~ ~~our~~ ~~economic~~ ~~troubles~~ is his administration's total refusal to cut federal spending by dealing with the problem of waste and fraud in the federal government.

*Solve*

Now no one was more vocal in 1975 and 1976 in denouncing federal waste than candidate Carter. He told the Atlanta Constitution that he might abolish 1,700 federal agencies; he said in the Washington Star "we must abolish and consolidate hundreds of federal programs and agencies." He told the Atlanta Constitution that the "whole government is just a great big horrible bureaucratic mess."

He promised again and again that he would cut waste, increase efficiency, reorganize the executive branch and streamline government.

Four years later, I think we have the right to ask the question: How did Mr. Carter do?

Just last year, the Joint Economic Committee reported a Justice Department figure that said deliberate fraud and abuse in government ran from one to ten per cent of federal expenditures. "That excludes waste," the report noted, "including waste would give a much higher figure."

And today I am again placing the issue of waste and fraud on the campaign agenda. Today I am again challenging Mr. Carter to explain his failure to deal with this unrelenting national scandal.

Today I am challenging Mr. Carter to explain his administration's shameful cover-up at the General Services Administration.

It's wonderful to be home again in California and I want to take this opportunity to report to you on our travels of the last few weeks.

It won't surprise you to know that everywhere Nancy and I have gone we have found Americans unhappy about the current leadership in Washington. Americans are disenchanted with the candidate who promised us four years ago a government we could love and trust and gave us instead an administration famous for its abuses of the incumbency, famous for the "meaness issue," famous for the Stealth bomber and -- when they recently "jimmied" the producer price index to portray economic conditions that didn't exist -- famous for "Stealth economics."

Americans are unhappy and concerned about this administration -- an administration that has told us that a great national malaise is upon us -- that seems to be saying our energy as a nation is spent, our days of greatness at an end.

Americans are concerned by an administration that seems to say we must cut our expectations, we must conserve and withdraw, that we must tell our children . . . not to dream as we once dreamed.

I believe that Americans are dissatisfied with an Administration that has let government grow too large, too bureaucratic, too wasteful, too unresponsive, too uncaring about ordinary people and their ordinary problems.

I believe that Americans feel burdened, stifled, and sometimes even oppressed by the growth and size of government under this administration.

But if Americans are dissatisfied and frustrated by what has been going on in Washington, let me assure you that they are also hopeful -- hopeful that in this campaign they will see a standard -- not of pastel shades -- but of bold colors. They are hopeful that they will hear in this campaign a rallying cry -- a rallying cry that will summon them to a new vision of America.

Our vision must be a vision of a better America; a vision of a society with compassion for the lonely, the desperate and the forgotten; a vision of government that works for people not against them.

I believe that Americans -- who have always known that bureaucracy is the enemy of excellence and statism the foe of compassion -- want a new era of reform ~~in government~~ *and a time of national renewal.*

I believe Americans want an era of reform that will reorder the relationship between citizen and government; that will make government responsive again to people, that will revitalize the values of family, work and neighborhood, that will reinvigorate the private, charitable and independent institutions that have always been the source of our strength as a nation and our progress as a people.

I believe we can cut federal spending by battling waste and fraud in government -- a problem that is now an unrelenting national scandal. I say we can enact a realistic program of tax cuts that will stimulate our economic growth and give all our citizens a larger piece of the economic pie. I believe we can

restore the health and vitality of our local and state governments. I believe we can relieve business and labor of burdensome, unnecessary federal regulations while maintaining high environmental and occupational safety standards. I believe we can fight corruption in public life and in government agencies while we work to bring into government men of ~~high~~ competence, caliber and high integrity.

I believe we can care for the poor and downtrodden while we set loose once again the energies and ingenuity of the American people.

To put it briefly: I believe we can get government off our backs, out of our pockets and up to the standards of decency and excellence envisioned by our founding fathers.

There is no more pernicious idea loose in public life today than the notion that government must get bigger and more bureaucratic to become responsive and compassionate.

In California, we learned the opposite was true and together we set out to change the conventional wisdom. At a time when welfare costs went skyrocketing and brought other state and local governments to the brink of bankruptcy, we instituted a series of reforms that got the welfare cheaters off the rolls but substantially increased benefits to the truly needy. I am proud to say that the Urban Institute, a non-partisan, scholarly foundation in Washington, recently called our welfare program a "major policy success."

This is the kind of government that can be responsive to the

American people -- the kind of government that they are entitled to.

Let us pledge today that we will continue the work begun here in California, that we will begin a new age of reform in America, an era of national renewal. Let us pledge today that we will reclaim the American dream and give government back to the people.

Bob,

Ken was sent these two drafts by operations last night.  
after he requested same.

I will try to be in by early afternoon but I'm still  
running a temperature and do not feel well at all.

Tony