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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 20, 1980

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

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN
RUN FOR THE ROSES RALLY
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Those of you in Louisville and surrounding areas have suffered particularly hard from Jimmy Carter's disastrous economic policies. Unemployment in Jefferson County, I've been told, is in excess of 30,000 people.

Those aren't 30,000 numbers. Those aren't 30,000 government forms. Those are 30,000 breadwinners--people who need an income; people who have children to raise and house payments to make; people who want to be productive and helpful in keeping America strong and at peace.

That's what wrong with the Jimmy Carter policies. I don't think he understands the depth of the misery people are in.

You know, in 1976, Mr. Carter came up with something called the Misery Index--he says that's what you have when you combine unemployment and inflation rates. Well, in 1976, the Misery Index was 12.5--and Mr. Carter called that unacceptable. Mr. Carter's in charge now. He's been in the Oval Office for three-and-a-half years. Now the Misery Index is 19.7. I have one simple observation to make about Mr. Carter's Misery Index. It may be his index, but it's your misery.

- MORE -

Maybe one of the reasons we're in so much trouble in this area is that Mr. Carter has not done enough to help the coal industry and the people who depend on it for jobs. You and I know we have plenty of coal to free us from the grips of OPEC, but Mr. Carter has moved too slowly to make it work for us.

I also want you to know that I'm wholeheartedly in favor of research and development in the area of synthetic fuels. These provide us a bridge into the future. I want to encourage the development of the necessary technology so we can get even more fuel from existing resources. And when we find the ways, private industry will be more capable than anyone else to do the job right.

I know that one other big concern you have here in this area is the situation that our farmers are facing. There's one answer to this problem, and that is a strong economy without the massive Carter inflation. And I can assure you that I would not have singled out grain for embargo as a so-called weapon against the Soviet Union, the way Mr. Carter did. He promised no food embargoes, but that's just what he gave you.

One thing you can count on me for is direct personal attention to developing new export markets for our farm commodities. That's one way for us to get more income for farmers. And once we develop a new market, I'm not going to pull the rug out from under your feet.

I know that Mr. Carter's spokesmen are going around saying that farmers never had it so good. Some of his people are citing the higher prices farmers are getting. But as you well know, those prices came because of a savage drought this year. In my administration, I'll only be proud of higher farm income if it

comes about because we do a good job, not because the weather has driven other farmers to the economic wall.

Finally, I want you to hear from me what I think about an issue so important to our elderly. One thing I'm a bit tired of in this campaign is the distortion of my positions by the Carter campaign. So for the record, here is my position on Social Security.

I will maintain a strong Social Security system.

I will support Medicare and work to make it stronger.

I support--and Jimmy Carter opposes--removing the earnings limitation which penalizes those between 65 and 72 who earn extra income to cope with Carter inflation.

Now those are words from me and not from some press agent for the people who have done so much to hurt our retired people.

* * * * *

MASTER

FROM: BOB GARRICK

OUT AT: 18 October

12:00 Noon

~~Senator Paul Laxalt~~

~~Ambassador Anne Armstrong~~

~~Bill Casey~~

~~Ed Meese~~

~~Jim Baker~~

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~~Dean Burch
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~~GARY BAUER~~

Louisville, Ky (10),
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The engineers who conceived and built the steamships that first came to Louisville -- the pilots who know every inch of the rivers and guided the first water-borne cargos through narrow often dangerous channels -- they were early symbols of the technological leadership that would make America the envy of the world.

I believe that kind of leadership still prospers in America. I believe it's time to bring that leadership from the private sector into government.

Earlier this week, I met with some of the most distinguished leaders from both private and public life -- leaders I have vowed to bring into government -- into the service of the American taxpayer.

One problem in particular I intend to deal with is the unrelenting scandal of waste and fraud in the federal government. I have already appointed a task force of experts from government and business to deal with this problem.

And what a problem it is. Just last year, the Joint Economic Committee reported a Justice Department figure that said deliberate fraud in the government accounted for one to ten percent of federal expenditures. The report noted that if waste and mismanagement were included the figure would be much higher.

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I want Mr. Carter to talk about the waste of the taxpayers money in the federal government.

I want Mr. Carter to explain his administration's shameful cover-up of the multimillion dollar scandal at the General Service Administration.

In that scandal, government auditors and investigators were tracking down what they estimated was 100 million lost each year to fraud and another 160 million lost each year to waste and mismanagement.

According to statements by both the chief GSA investigator and the chief GSA auditor that investigation was shut down after Mr. Carter replaced the leadership at GSA -- leadership that was trying to uncover the wrongdoing.

Today I want to make a pledge to you: the next administration is going to put the corruption fighters back in charge at GSA and let them finish the job they started out to do.

I believe that Mr. Carter must give account to the people for his administration's shut down of the GSA investigation. I believe Mr. Carter must explain his administration's continuing failure to deal with the enormity of the waste and mismanagement in the federal government.

No President is so remote -- or so isolated from reality that he cannot lay down firm rules for halting wasteful practices of these magnitudes. Every department head, every agency chief, everybody in a position of responsibility can and should be held accountable for approving expenditures that clearly are rushed through to avoid turning unspent funds back to the Treasury. A President who truly is concerned with the plight of the taxpayer can check this kind of runaway spending if he lets his underlings know he means business. There are all kinds of monitoring devices available to a President to indicate who is spending what and for what purposes.

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And that brings us to the private consultants and researchers who will make any kind of study the government wants if the price is right. And the price is right -- millions and millions of dollars in consultant fees more often than not paid for under non-competitive bid contracts. Government

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In the course of an investigation, the Post reviewed 13,848 contract awards published last year and concluded that the government spent more than \$9.3 billion for so-called outside expertise. Is this the economy in government that Jimmy Carter promised us? We have a right to ask how much of this outside research is necessary and why when it is produced, ^{it} is promptly set aside and ignored.

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