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Reagan & Bush

Reagan Bush Committee

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

NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL:

Sunday, September 7, 1980
2:00 p.m. EDT

CONTACT:

Lyn Nofziger
or
Ken Towery
703-685-3630

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE RONALD REAGAN
"SUPER SENIOR SUNDAY"
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
SEPTEMBER 7, 1980

Philadelphia is proud to be known as city of neighborhoods.
I think all of them must be here today.

It is fitting that we should meet here. Philadelphia's
museum of art is a symbol of the great cultural heritage you are
so justly proud of. And, of course, these steps have been made
world-famous by "Rocky." They symbolize determination, hope, a
belief in a dream.

The new dream we all have for a better America can begin
soon--this November.

In Ben Franklin's city, where our nation first announced its
independence to the world, we are reminded in a special way that
older Americans want and deserve the kind of compassion and
effectiveness and responsiveness from government that the Founders
envisioned.

In 1776 when, in this city, the Declaration of Independence
was proclaimed, only one out of every fifty Americans was 65 years

- MORE -

Paid for by Reagan Bush Committee. United States Senator Paul Laxalt, Chairman. Bay Buchanan, Treasurer.

of age or older. In 1980 one out of every nine Americans is 65 or over.

In 1776, in this city, the Founders gave us a Declaration of Independence. But in the past four years, we've been given something different. We've been given a Declaration of Indifference --

--indifference to the plight of the homeowner,

--indifference to the worker,

--indifference to the young just starting out, and especially

--indifference to older Americans whose happiness and peace of mind depend on a strong, sound economy.

The Carter record is a litany of despair, of broken promises, of sacred trusts abandoned and forgotten.

Eight million people out of work. Inflation running nearly three times as high as four years ago. Black unemployment at about 14 percent, higher than any single year since the government began keeping separate statistics. Four straight major deficits run up by Carter and his friends in Congress. The highest interest rates since the Civil War--reaching at times close to 20 percent--lately down to more than 11 percent but now going up again--productivity falling for six straight quarters among the most productive people in history.

He promised he would not increase taxes for the lower and middle-income people--the workers of America. Then he imposed on American families the largest single tax increase in history.

Directly and indirectly, this crushing burden has fallen heavily upon you and other Americans who have contributed so much to building your country into a dynamic nation, proud to be "Number One."

I am particularly aware of what the Carter policies have done to women over 65. They are the fastest growing group of poor in America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.) They are tragic victims of the Carter Declaration of Indifference.

Our older Americans are an important, vital part of the community that makes America strong.

Our older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

If you want to take a look at the future as it would be if the present administration is continued, let me quote what Candidate Carter was saying four years ago. In 1976 he said: "Older people with fixed incomes fear the day that their lives are squeezed. An elderly person on a fixed retirement check buys inferior food, maybe has to leave one's own home..."

That's what Jimmy Carter thought of inflation when it was below five percent. What in the world does he expect us to think of it today, when--because of his policies--it is three times that high?

But he doesn't want to talk about his record. He doesn't want to talk about what his policies have done--certainly not in this election season.

But I'm here today to tell you that, together, we can have a new beginning.

A few months ago when the inflation rate reached 18 percent, the President called back his own budget and said he was going to reduce it. Well that's fine--it ended up not being reduced--but I think it's significant that one of the cuts he suggested was in the way Social Security payments are adjusted for inflation. A study he authorized also called for an income tax on Social Security benefits. That would be double taxation because you paid income tax on your payments into Social Security. You shouldn't have to pay again when that money is returned to you.

As Governor of California I found there were things that could be done about your problem:

I approved cost of living increases in senior citizens aid and provided \$46 million in new property tax relief for senior citizens, ranging from 32 percent for those at the \$6,000 a year income level to more than 80 percent at \$3,000 a year and below,

and up to 92 percent in the lowest income bracket. Remember this was before the runaway inflation we have today.

And in case I need any reminder of what we owe to older Americans--and I don't--I have the example set by Nancy when we were in California.

She has been and is today this nation's most ardent supporter of the Foster Grandparents program. This program brings together the elements that make up a sense of community for all Americans: those in need, those who can help, and an awful lot of love. The experience and the tenderness, the love and the wisdom that only older citizens can bring to the care of children is at the heart of this program. Nancy saw this program work in California and through her help, we have seen it expand into other states and is part of a federal program as well.

So we will bring to Washington a commitment to the need and the hopes of older Americans, a proven record of accomplishment.

And it is on this record I intend to build a growing commitment to your needs. As President

--I will defend the integrity of the Social Security system, the foundation of the economic life of millions of Americans. That system will be strong and reliable and protected under a Reagan Administration.

--I will see to it that the promises made by government to every older American under the Medicare and other programs are kept.

--I will institute real tax reforms that can help older Americans retain their dignity, their self-respect, and their self-reliance as productive members of society. I will not tolerate, and will fight with all my strength, the inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse of government programs--many of which are aimed at older Americans.

A May 31, 1979, Congressional Joint Economic Committee report cited a Justice Department estimate that deliberate fraud and abuse accounted for one to ten percent of the federal programs. "That excludes waste," the report noted. Including waste would give a much higher figure.

This waste is not only economically unacceptable, it is an insult to millions of older Americans who have to scrimp and save and watch every penny while the federal government squanders tax dollars.

You know where those tax dollars come from and you are tired of hearing the same old excuses about how it can't be helped. It can be helped and we know it.

It's time the federal government started watching every penny and older Americans started getting their money's worth out of taxes and their full value out of social security and pensions!

That's the spirit of Philadelphia; that's the spirit I'd like to bring to Washington--a spirit that older Americans want to see once more in government.

And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day, I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!" Let's get on with the job.

With your help, with your vote--and I need and want both, and do not hesitate to ask for them--we will start that task in January 1981.

Every generation is critical of the generation that went before. In recent years our generation has been blamed for much of what seems to be wrong in the world today. Well I will not apologize for our generation. We have known four wars in our lifetime and a great depression that changed the face of the world.

No people who ever lived have fought harder, paid a higher price for freedom, or done more to advance the dignity of mankind.

I would like to quote a line from an address that was never given; an address John F. Kennedy intended to make in late November of 1963. His unspoken words are appropriate today: "We in this country, in this generation, are, by destiny rather than choice, the watchmen on the walls of world freedom."

* * * * *



REAGAN for PRESIDENT

901 South Highland Street
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SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security is one of this nation's most vital commitments to our senior citizens. Governor Reagan is committed to strengthening this fundamental contract between our government and our citizens. Precisely because Social Security is a precious lifeline for millions of elderly, orphaned and disabled, Governor Reagan insists that its financing be sound and stable.

Governor Reagan will not make Social Security voluntary. The payment of promised benefits is a sacred obligation of the federal government, and no step should ever be taken which would hamper the fulfillment of that obligation.

The problems of Social Security financing are only an aspect of the overriding problems of the economy. Revenues to the Social Security system are critically dependent upon the amount of the nation's covered payrolls. People out of work make no contribution to the system, and the benefits to recipients are correspondingly less secure. To save Social Security, we have no choice but to redirect our economy toward growth. To meet this country's commitments to Social Security recipients, present and future, we need more people at work, earning more money, thereby paying more into the trust funds. That same growth can help balance the federal budget, over time reducing inflation, which falls so cruelly on senior citizens whose income is fixed by the size of their public or private pension.

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9/9/80



REAGAN for PRESIDENT

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SOCIAL SECURITY--RETIREMENT AGE

Governor Reagan believes that Social Security is one of this nation's most vital commitments to our senior citizens. He is committed to strengthening this fundamental contract between our government and our citizens. We must insist that the system's financing be sound and stable.

As President, Ronald Reagan will examine many different options to reinforce the system. But he will not be party to any attempt to jeopardize the benefits of people who are entitled to them.

###

9/10/80



REAGAN for PRESIDENT

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SOCIAL SECURITY--TAXATION OF BENEFITS

Governor Reagan will not support any legislation that would subject Social Security benefits to taxation of any kind. Taxing benefits which were paid for by taxation would be a gross violation of a trust dating back to the 1930s. Social Security beneficiaries have earned their benefits--100 percent of them.

###

9/10/80

Governor Reagan believes the Social Security system must be placed on a sound footing, but with the unalterable condition that the benefits of those who are now dependent upon Social Security, and of those who are looking forward to receiving them, will not be endangered. Beyond that, he favors the elimination of the earnings limit for Social Security recipients, and steadfastly opposes taxation of Social Security benefits.

In order for senior citizens to retain more of their income, Governor Reagan favors an increase in the amount of interest from savings exempted from the income tax, as well as elimination of the estate and gift tax, as soon as fiscally possible.

He also favors seeking ways to increase the ability of senior citizens to receive health care treatments at home, so they can remain with their families, rather than being forced into the hospital or a nursing home when it is not necessary.

Governor Reagan supports a vigorous effort to root out the estimated \$2.5 billion of Medicare and Medicaid funds which are lost to fraud, waste, and abuse so that money intended for senior citizens actually reaches them.

Finally, Governor and Mrs. Reagan will encourage continued expansion of the Foster Grandparents program.

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: August 21, 1980

WASHINGTON, D.C. ---- The Reagan-Bush Committee today announced the formation of an Energy Policy Advisory Group to examine national energy programs and make recommendations for a national energy policy.

The new group will be chaired by Michel T. Halbouty, internationally renowned geologist, petroleum engineer and former president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

The Energy Policy Advisory Group joins five other groups already established in the fields of national security, foreign policy, budget, business and health. The study groups already announced, and those being formed, have been asked to prepare recommendations for legislative and executive actions that could be undertaken by a new administration. The advisory groups will submit their reports to Governor Reagan after November's election for his consideration.

Reagan-Bush Campaign Chairman Bill Casey said, "Governor Reagan has consistently sought out the most capable and experienced people to advise and counsel him on important issues regardless of their party affiliation and irrespective of individual political support. He is encouraged by the depth of practical experience, scholarly research and public service represented by the outstanding people who will be evaluating our national energy policies and programs."

The efforts of all of the Domestic and Economic Advisory Groups will be coordinated by Chief Policy Advisor Ed Meese, Senior Advisor Martin Anderson and Senior Policy Advisor Darrell Trent.

- ENERGY POLICY ADVISORY GROUP -

Michel T. Halbouty, Chairman
Geologist and Petroleum Engineer.

Petr Beckmann
Professor of Electrical Engineering, University of Colorado.

John F. Bookout, Jr.
President, Shell Oil Company.

W. Kenneth Davis
Vice President, Bechtel Power Corporation.

Harold J. Haynes
Chairman of the Board, Standard Oil Company of California.

Hollis D. Hedberg
Professor of Geology, Emeritus, Princeton University.

Edward G. Jefferson
President, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company.

George O. G. Lof
Former Director, Solar Energy Applications Laboratory;
Professor of Civil Engineering, Colorado State University.

John J. McKetta, Jr.
Former Chairman, National Energy Policy Commission; E.P. Schoch
Professor of Chemical Engineering, University of Texas.

Edward J. Mitchell
Professor of Business Economics, University of Michigan.

Thomas Gale Moore
Former Senior Staff Economist of the Council of Economic
Advisors; Senior Fellow and Director, Domestic Studies
Program, The Hoover Institution.

Bernard J. O'Keefe
Chairman of the Board, EG & G, Inc., Wellesly, Massachusetts.

Robert Quenon
President and Chief Executive Officer, Peabody Coal Company.

Fred J. Russell
Former Undersecretary of the Interior and Deputy Director of
the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

Philip K. Verleger, Jr.
Former Senior Staff Economist, Council of Economic Advisors
and Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the
Treasury (Economic Policy); Senior Research Scholar,
School of Organization and Management, Yale University.

A street fair for older persons, their families and friends.

Super Senior Sunday

SEPT. 7

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Program OVER EASY



STATISTICAL NOTES

From the National Clearinghouse on Aging

No. 5

July 1980

Statistical Notes is issued and distributed without charge by the National Clearinghouse on Aging on an occasional basis. The goal of this newsletter is to provide information about statistical programs and publications of interest to the National Network on Aging and the many other persons and organizations working in the field of aging. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, or would like to submit questions, suggestions, or appropriate contributions, please write to:

Statistical Notes
National Clearinghouse on Aging
Administration on Aging
Washington, DC 20201

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1979 EMPLOYMENT DATA

There were 7.3 million persons 60 years old and over who were employed during 1979 (see table on page 2). This number has increased by almost 300,000 since 1975. Nearly all of this increase occurred among women, who now constitute 38% of elderly workers.

Most elderly workers are employed in nonagricultural industries. The number employed in agriculture declined by about 50,000 between 1975 and 1979. Nearly one-fifth (19%) of elderly workers were self-employed in 1979, although this proportion declined slightly from 21% in 1975. About two-thirds of all elderly workers worked full-time (35+ hours per week).

Among the 25.3 million elderly persons who were not in the labor force in 1979, the vast majority (98%) reported that they did not want a job. About 544,000 or 2% reported that they would like a job, although they were not actively looking for one. Most (70%) elderly

(continued on page 3)

SELECTED LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION 60+ YEARS OLD BY SEX: 1979 AND 1975

(Numbers in thousands. Data are annual averages and exclude persons in institutions)

Characteristic	1979			1975		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
EMPLOYMENT STATUS						
Total	32,815	14,044	18,771	30,425	13,038	17,387
In labor force	7,521	4,665	2,856	7,363	4,704	2,659
As percent of total	22.9	33.2	15.2	24.2	36.1	15.3
Employed	7,289	4,522	2,767	6,996	4,476	2,520
Unemployed	233	143	90	364	227	137
As percent of labor force	3.1	3.1	3.2	4.9	4.8	5.2
Not in labor force	25,294	9,379	15,915	23,062	8,334	14,728
As percent of total	77.1	66.8	84.8	75.8	63.9	84.7
TYPE OF INDUSTRY AND CLASS OF WORKER						
Total employed	7,289	4,522	2,767	6,996	4,476	2,520
Nonagricultural industries	6,718	4,021	2,697	6,373	3,922	2,451
Agriculture	571	501	70	623	552	69
Wage and salary workers	5,823	3,425	2,397	5,461	3,293	2,167
Self-employed	1,386	1,087	300	1,454	1,164	289
Unpaid family workers	80	10	70	81	17	64
FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS ^{1/}						
Total labor force	7,521	4,665	2,856	7,363	4,704	2,659
Employed	7,289	4,522	2,767	6,996	4,476	2,520
Full-time	4,943	3,362	1,581	4,804	3,318	1,486
Part-time	2,347	1,161	1,187	2,192	1,157	1,035
For economic reasons	254	135	119	278	163	115
Voluntary	2,093	1,026	1,068	1,914	994	920
Unemployed	233	143	90	364	227	137
Looking for full-time work	140	93	47	261	166	95
Looking for part-time work	92	50	42	104	61	43
JOB DESIRE OF PERSONS NOT IN LABOR FORCE						
Total not in labor force ^{2/} ...	25,294	9,379	15,915	23,057	8,333	14,722
Do not want job now	24,749	9,104	15,642	22,546	8,081	14,464
Current activity:						
Illness or disability	2,196	1,156	1,040	2,371	1,253	1,119
Keeping house	12,188	193	11,994	11,974	141	11,833
Retired	9,728	7,301	2,427	7,686	6,284	1,402
Other	637	454	181	516	403	110
Want a job now	544	271	274	511	251	259
Reason for not looking:						
Illness or disability	170	90	80	155	88	67
Think cannot get job	152	75	76	198	109	88
Job market factors	68	34	35	111	61	50
Personal factors	83	42	43	88	48	39
Other reasons	222	106	118	158	54	104
RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE AND REASON FOR LEAVING LAST JOB						
Total not in labor force ^{2/} ...	25,294	9,379	15,915	23,057	8,333	14,722
Never worked	2,448	48	2,399	2,665	29	2,635
Last worked over 5 years ago	17,728	6,379	11,348	15,178	5,352	9,826
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	3,763	2,148	1,614	3,779	2,125	1,654
Left job during last 12 months	1,354	800	554	1,434	827	606
Percent distribution by reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
School, home responsibilities	5.9	3.2	9.9	6.2	3.1	10.4
Illness or disability	15.1	16.2	13.3	17.5	16.5	18.8
Retirement, old age	49.1	55.2	40.4	47.7	56.2	36.3
Economic reasons	20.4	18.1	23.8	19.0	17.1	21.5
End of seasonal job	8.8	8.4	9.4	7.3	7.5	6.9
Slack work	4.6	3.9	5.9	6.0	4.7	7.6
End of temporary job	7.0	5.9	8.5	5.8	5.0	6.9
All other reasons	9.5	7.2	12.6	9.6	7.0	13.0

^{1/} Employed persons with a job but not at work during the survey week are distributed proportionately among the full- and part-time employed categories.

^{2/} "Not-in-labor-force" totals for 1975 differ slightly from those shown above because of differences in weighting patterns.

SOURCE: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, Vol. 27, No. 1, January 1980, and Vol. 23, No. 1, January 1976.

persons not in the labor force had last worked over 5 years ago. Of the 1.4 million who had left their last job within the previous 12 months, only half reported that they had retired. One-seventh claimed illness or disability as the reason for leaving their last job, and one-fifth cited economic reasons such as end of seasonal or temporary jobs or slack work.

These data were derived by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, a monthly sample of 56,000 U.S. households. Persons in institutions and members of Armed Forces in barracks are excluded from the survey. The data shown in the table on page 2 are annual averages and most were published in the January 1980 and January 1976 issues of Employment and Earnings, a monthly statistical journal published by BLS.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BLACK ELDERLY

The National Clearinghouse on Aging has released a new report entitled "Characteristics of the Black Elderly." The publication contains statistical tables together with a descriptive analysis, and covers such areas as population trends and projections, marital status and living arrangements, labor force participation, income and poverty, education, health, life expectancy, and crime victimization. The information in this report is based primarily on statistics published by the Bureau of the Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Department of Health and Human Services (formerly the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare).

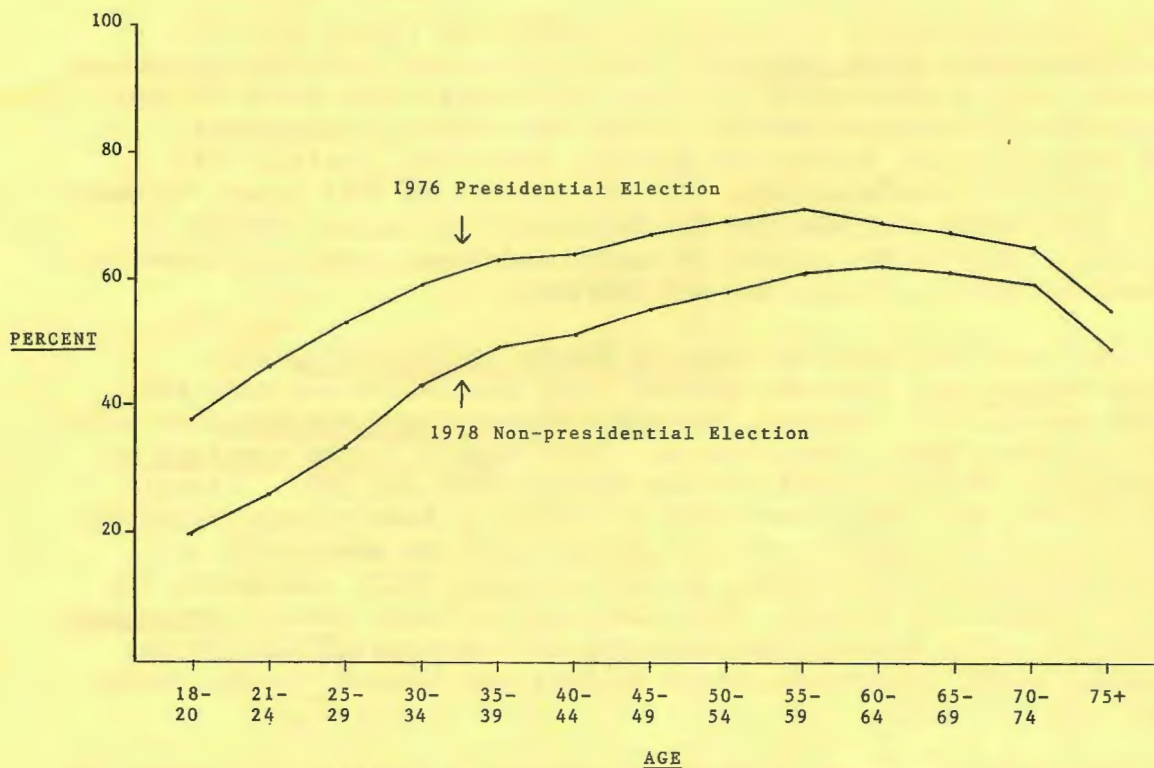
The data reveal that the number of elderly Blacks is increasing at a substantially faster rate than the general older population and also the elderly White population. However, the Black elderly have not fared as well economically as their White counterparts. Their median income remained at only two-thirds of that of elderly Whites between 1967 and 1977. Elderly Black families were more than four times as likely to have incomes below the poverty level in 1977 as elderly White families, and the proportion of elderly Black unrelated individuals in this category (51%) was double the proportion for comparable Whites. This disparity reflects limited employment opportunities for older Blacks, concentration in lower-paying jobs during younger working years, and concentration in jobs not covered by the Social Security Act prior to 1950.

While the limited supply lasts, free single copies of Statistical Reports on Older Americans, No. 5, "Characteristics of the Black Elderly," can be obtained by writing to Statistical Notes, National Clearinghouse on Aging, Administration on Aging, Washington, D.C. 20201

VOTING AND REGISTRATION AMONG THE ELDERLY

As persons become older, more experienced, and generally have more invested in the political and economic life of our country, they are more likely to go to the polls on election day. Persons in their 60's were almost twice as likely to vote in the 1976 presidential election and three times as likely to vote in the 1978 congressional election as persons who had just reached voting age (see chart below). For persons in their 70's and older, however, voting drops off somewhat, particularly among women. Some of this decline is due to lack of interest, but much of it is caused by the growing frequency of health problems, isolation, and the lack of transportation.

PERCENT WHO REPORTED VOTING, BY AGE



The number of persons who reported that they voted has generally increased over the past two decades (see table on page 6). This increase has not kept pace with the growth of the voting age population, however, and the rate of voting has been declining. For example, the percent of persons who reported voting in the last four presidential elections has declined 10 percentage points, from 69% in 1964 to 59% in 1976. For older persons (65+ years old), the decline was only four percentage points, from 66% to 62%.

Loss of one's spouse appears to have a considerable effect on voting behavior. The following data show that the voting rate for older men and women who have lost their spouse through death or divorce was 15-20 percentage points lower than for older persons who lived with a spouse.

PERCENT OF PERSONS 65+ WHO REPORTED VOTING, BY MARITAL STATUS

Sex and marital status	1978 Non-presidential election	1976 Presidential election
Male:		
Married, wife present	66.8	72.9
Widowed or divorced	49.6	53.3
Female:		
Married, husband present ..	59.8	66.7
Widowed or divorced	45.0	52.2

Since 1964, the first year that demographic data on election behavior were collected by the Bureau of the Census, older Whites have been more likely to vote than older Blacks. This difference has narrowed considerably over the last two decades. The rate for older Whites has remained fairly stable in non-presidential elections and decreased somewhat in presidential elections, but the voting rate for older Blacks has increased by several percentage points in both types of elections. Much of this change in voting behavior for Blacks is due to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the voter registration drives among Blacks in the 1960's, and increasing political awareness.

PERCENT OF PERSONS 65+ WHO REPORTED VOTING, BY RACE

Year	Black	White	Ratio: Black to White
Presidential elections:			
1976	54.3	63.2	0.86
1972	50.6	64.8	0.78
1968	49.9	67.4	0.74
1964	45.3	68.1	0.67
Non-presidential elections:			
1978	45.6	57.2	0.80
1974	38.5	52.8	0.73
1970	39.3	58.6	0.67
1966	35.3	57.9	0.61

(continued on page 9)

VOTING IN PRESIDENTIAL AND NON-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS BY AGE: NOVEMBER 1964-1978

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

Age	Presidential election				Non-presidential election			
	1976	1972	1968	1964	1978	1974	1970	1966
VOTING AGE POPULATION (in thousands)								
Total ^{1/}	146,548	136,203	^{1/} 116,535	^{1/} 110,604	151,646	141,299	^{1/} 120,701	^{1/} 112,800
Under 45 years ^{1/}	81,255	73,785	^{1/} 57,705	^{1/} 55,215	85,214	77,382	^{1/} 60,083	^{1/} 55,812
45 to 54 years	23,326	23,375	22,632	21,564	22,888	23,569	23,134	22,060
55 to 64 years	19,967	18,969	17,730	16,557	20,543	19,392	18,343	17,111
65 years and over	<u>22,001</u>	20,074	18,468	<u>17,269</u>	23,001	20,955	19,141	17,817
65 to 74 years	13,974	12,608	11,573	11,300	14,729	13,316	11,924	11,585
75 years and over	8,027	7,466	6,895	5,969	8,272	7,639	7,217	6,232
REPORTED VOTING								
<u>Number</u> (in thousands)								
Total ^{1/}	86,698	85,766	^{1/} 78,964	^{1/} 76,671	69,587	63,164	^{1/} 65,888	^{1/} 62,518
Under 45 years ^{1/}	43,250	43,033	^{1/} 36,576	^{1/} 36,290	31,290	27,935	^{1/} 28,351	^{1/} 27,282
45 to 54 years	15,843	16,577	16,993	16,421	12,851	13,169	14,767	14,170
55 to 64 years	<u>13,920</u>	13,414	13,245	<u>12,515</u>	12,577	11,297	11,864	11,079
65 years and over	<u>13,685</u>	12,741	12,150	<u>11,447</u>	12,868	10,764	10,906	9,987
65 to 74 years	9,282	8,590	8,270	8,063	8,858	7,428	7,293	7,063
75 years and over	4,403	4,151	3,880	3,384	4,010	3,336	3,613	2,924
<u>As Percent of Voting Age Population</u>								
Total ^{1/}	59.2	63.0	^{1/} 67.8	^{1/} 69.3	45.9	44.7	^{1/} 54.6	^{1/} 55.4
Under 45 years ^{1/}	53.2	58.3	^{1/} 63.4	^{1/} 65.7	36.7	36.1	^{1/} 47.2	^{1/} 48.9
45 to 54 years	67.9	70.9	75.1	76.1	56.1	55.9	63.8	64.2
55 to 64 years	69.7	70.7	74.7	75.6	61.2	58.3	64.7	64.7
65 years and over	62.2	63.5	65.8	66.3	55.9	51.4	57.0	56.1
65 to 74 years	66.4	68.1	71.5	71.4	60.1	55.8	61.2	61.0
75 years and over	54.8	55.6	56.3	56.7	48.5	43.7	50.1	46.9

^{1/} For 1964-1970, the voting population includes persons 18 years old and over in Georgia and Kentucky, 19 years old and over in Alaska, 20 years old and over in Hawaii, and 21 years old and over elsewhere. For 1972-1978, the voting age population includes persons 18 years old and over in all States.

Source: Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No.'s 143, 174, 192, 228, 253, 293, 322, and 344.

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF VOTING AGE POPULATION AND PERSONS WHO REPORTED VOTING,
BY AGE: NOVEMBER 1964-1978

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

Age	Presidential election				Non-presidential election			
	1976	1972	1968	1964	1978	1974	1970	1966
VOTING AGE POPULATION								
Total ^{1/}	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>
Under 45 years ^{1/}	55.4	54.2	<u>1/49.5</u>	<u>1/49.9</u>	56.2	54.8	<u>1/49.8</u>	<u>1/49.5</u>
45 to 54 years	15.9	17.2	19.4	19.5	15.1	16.7	19.2	19.6
55 to 64 years	<u>13.6</u>	13.9	15.2	<u>15.0</u>	13.5	13.7	15.2	15.2
65 years and over	<u>15.0</u>	14.7	15.8	<u>15.6</u>	15.2	14.8	15.9	15.8
65 to 74 years	9.5	9.3	9.9	10.2	9.7	9.4	9.9	10.3
75 years and over	5.5	5.5	5.9	5.4	5.5	5.4	6.0	5.5
REPORTED VOTING								
Total ^{1/}	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>	<u>1/100.0</u>
Under 45 years ^{1/}	50.0	50.2	<u>1/46.3</u>	<u>1/47.3</u>	45.0	44.2	<u>1/43.0</u>	<u>1/43.6</u>
45 to 54 years	18.3	19.3	21.5	21.4	18.5	20.8	22.4	22.7
55 to 64 years	<u>16.1</u>	15.6	<u>16.8</u>	<u>16.3</u>	18.1	17.9	18.0	17.7
65 years and over	<u>15.8</u>	14.9	<u>15.4</u>	<u>14.9</u>	18.5	17.0	16.6	16.0
65 to 74 years	10.7	10.0	10.5	10.5	12.7	11.8	11.1	11.3
75 years and over	5.1	4.8	4.9	4.4	5.8	5.3	5.5	4.7

^{1/} For 1964-1970, the voting population includes persons 18 years old and over in Georgia and Kentucky, 19 years old and over in Alaska, 20 years old and over in Hawaii, and 21 years old and over elsewhere. For 1972-1978, the voting age population includes persons 18 years old and over in all States.

Note: Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No.'s 143, 174, 192, 228, 253, 293, 322, and 344.

REASONS FOR NOT REGISTERING AND NOT VOTING, FOR PERSONS
65 YEARS OLD AND OVER: NOVEMBER 1978 and 1976

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

Subject	1978 (non-presidential)		1976 (presidential)	
	Number (000's)	Percent distribution	Number (000's)	Percent distribution
Total, 65 years and over	23,001	<u>100.0</u>	22,001	<u>100.0</u>
Reported registered	16,752	72.8	15,716	71.4
Reported voted	12,868	55.9	<u>13,685</u>	62.2
Reported did not vote ^{1/}	<u>3,883</u>	16.9	2,031	9.2
Reported not registered	<u>4,423</u>	19.2	<u>4,288</u>	19.5
Don't know or did not report on registration	1,285	5.6	1,571	7.1
Not U.S. citizen	541	2.4	423	1.9
<u>Reason For Not Registering ^{2/}</u>				
Reported not registered, total ..	4,423	<u>100.0</u>	4,288	<u>100.0</u>
Unable to register	1,509	34.1	1,685	39.3
Recently moved	332	7.5	148	3.5
Permanent illness or disability..	777	17.6	823	19.2
Hours or place inconvenient	99	2.2	249	5.8
Other reasons	301	6.8	465	10.8
Did not want to register	1,711	38.7	1,070	25.0
Did not prefer any candidate	171	3.9	160	3.7
Not interested, did not care, etc.....	1,540	34.8	910	21.2
All other reasons	831	18.8	1,383	32.3
Don't know or reason not reported .	373	8.4	149	3.5
<u>Reason For Not Voting ^{2/}</u>				
Reported registered, but did not vote, total ^{1/}	3,883	<u>100.0</u>	2,031	<u>100.0</u>
Sick or family emergency	1,551	39.9	928	45.7
No way to get to polls	<u>354</u>	9.1	<u>168</u>	8.3
Out of town or away from home	422	10.9	165	8.1
Did not want to vote	694	17.9	341	16.8
Did not prefer any candidate	216	5.6	165	8.1
Not interested, did not care, etc.	478	12.3	176	8.7
All other reasons	524	13.5	351	17.3
Don't know or reason not reported	338	8.7	79	3.9

^{1/} Includes persons who did not know or did not report whether they voted.

^{2/} Due to slight differences in questionnaire format and methodology, the data on reasons for not registering or voting in 1978 and 1976 are not strictly comparable.

The table on page 8 shows the number and percent distribution of older persons who were not registered to vote or who were registered but did not vote in the last two national elections by the reason for not registering or voting. In both elections, about half of those who were registered but did not vote cited illness, family emergency, or lack of transportation as their reason for not voting. Another one-sixth did not want to vote because of such reasons as no preference among the candidates, lack of interest, dislike of politics, or a belief that their vote would not matter.

All of the data in this article are from a series of reports based on the November voting supplement to the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census in approximately 56,000 households. The latest reports are: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 344, "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 1978," September 1979, and No. 322, "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 1976," March 1978. Copies of those reports may be purchased for \$4.00 and \$3.00, respectively, from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

1979 VERSION OF "FACTS ABOUT OLDER AMERICANS"

The 1979 version of the popular brochure entitled "Facts About Older Americans" was recently released by the National Clearinghouse on Aging. This brochure presents tables, charts, maps, and text on a wide variety of characteristics such as population growth, race, Spanish origin, projections, geographic distribution, life expectancy, cause of death, housing, living arrangements, marital status, education, consumer expenditures, income, poverty, employment, and health. Free copies of Facts About Older Americans, 1979 may be obtained by writing to: Publications Distribution Staff, National Clearinghouse on Aging, Administration on Aging, Washington, D.C. 20201.

CURRENT STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS FROM NCA

The following is a list of current statistical publications from the Statistical Analysis Staff of the National Clearinghouse on Aging. Please note that the series entitled Statistical Memo and an earlier series entitled Facts and Figures on Older Americans have been replaced by Statistical Reports on Older Americans and this newsletter, Statistical Notes. Copies of the publications listed below may be obtained by writing to: Statistical Notes, National Clearinghouse on Aging, Administration on Aging, Washington, D. C. 20201.

1. Statistical Reports on Older Americans, No. 5, "Characteristics of the Black Elderly," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 80-200057, April 1980.

Discusses current data on a wide variety of topics including population trends and projections, marital status and living arrangements, labor force participation, income and poverty, education, health, life expectancy, and crime victimization. Includes statistical tables.

2. Statistical Reports on Older Americans, No. 4, "Social, Economic, and Health Characteristics of Older American Indians (Part 2 of 2)," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 78-20289, June 1978.

Discusses 1970 census data on a variety of topics, including marital status, household composition, labor force, income, poverty, and education. Also includes more current information on Supplemental Security Income and health. Includes statistical tables.

3. Statistical Reports on Older Americans, No. 3, "Some Prospects for the Future Elderly Population," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 78-20288, January 1978.

Describes the most recent Census Bureau projections of the population to the year 2035 by age, sex, and race. Discusses some of the implications for such characteristics as living arrangements, health, marital status, education, language difficulty, occupational history, income, and poverty. Includes statistical tables.

4. Statistical Reports on Older Americans, No. 2, "Income and Poverty Among the Elderly: 1975," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 77-20286, April 1977.

Describes the economic status of the elderly population, based on current and historical data from Census Bureau surveys. Includes statistical tables.

5. Statistical Reports on Older Americans, No. 1, "American Indian Population 55 Years of Age and Older: Geographic Distribution, 1970 (Part 1 of 2)," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 77-20285, March 1977.

Presents 1970 census data on the distribution of older Indians by State, region, urban-rural residence, and reservation. Includes statistical tables.

6. Statistical Memo, No. 33, "Elderly Widows," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 77-20015, July 1976

Discusses causes for the large number of elderly widows, and presents data on a wide variety of characteristics, including age, race, living arrangements, income, housing, and transportation. Includes statistical tables.

7. Statistical Memo, No. 32, "Lack of Complete Kitchen Facilities Among the Elderly: 1970," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 76-20012, February 1976.

Describes data from a special tabulation of 1970 census data on the presence or lack of complete kitchen facilities in households with elderly members. Data are presented by age of household head, urban-rural residence, and size of household. Includes statistical tables.

8. Statistical Memo, No. 31, "Estimates of the Size and Characteristics of the Older Population in 1974 and Projections to the Year 2000," DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 75-20013, May 1975.

Discusses historical trends in fertility, mortality, and immigration that have shaped the age, sex, and race structure of the current and future elderly population. Includes statistical tables.

9. Facts About Older Americans: 1979, DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 80-20006, June 1980

This handy brochure presents statistics on the elderly population for a wide variety of characteristics, such as population growth and projections, race, Spanish origin, geographic distribution, life expectancy, cause of death, housing, living arrangements, marital status, education, consumer expenditures, income, poverty, employment, and health. Includes charts, maps, and statistical tables.

10. The Elderly Population: Estimates by County, 1977, (forthcoming).

Contains estimates of the number of elderly (60+ and 65+) for each county in the United States as of July 1, 1977. Statistical tables for each State also provide estimates for Planning and Service Areas (PSA's), the target areas for State and Area Agencies on Aging, as well as for the metropolitan and nonmetropolitan populations of each State. Supersedes The Elderly Population: Estimates by County, 1976, DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 78-20248, July 1978 (out of print).

11. Inventory of Federal Statistical Programs Relating to Older Persons, DHHS Publication No. (OHDS) 79-20291, January 1979.

This document contains descriptive information on 111 statistical programs which provide data on the elderly population. The programs includes censuses, sample surveys, administrative program records, estimation and projection programs, and others. An index of data items included in all 111 programs is appended.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Washington, D.C. 20201

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HHS-393



Official Business

To: Bob Garrick

September 5, 1980

From: Bill Gavin *B* -

Re: St. Joseph's College Rally.

Paul Westhead (a former neighbor of mine) is now coach of the world champion Los Angeles Lakers. He is also an alumnus of St. Joe's. Perhaps RR might want to make reference to this by saying at the beginning of his remarks.

"It's good to be here at St. Joseph's college, known for its distinguished academic achievements and for the ~~the Hawks~~ athletic program that has made the name "Hawks" known all over the country. As a citizen of California and Los ~~Angels~~ Angeles, I want to thank you for giving us Paul Westhead, coach of the champion Lakers and a distinguished alumnus of St. Joe's. This school knows how to produce champions and winners and I hope some of it rubs off today."

Suggested Remarks for St. Joseph College Fieldhouse Rally in
Philadelphia, September 7, 1980.

(The following might be used as part of the basic speech)

I thought that since I am in such a distinguished academic setting, I would try to follow the example shown by scholars and provide you with some documentation of what Mr. Carter has said--and what he has done.

Let me give you a few examples:

In a speech to the National Conference of Catholic Charities, on October 4, 1976, Jimmy Carter said that he was "deeply concerned" about the impact "the economy is having on family life in America."

That was when the rate of inflation was 4.8 per cent not the 12 or 15 or even 18 per cent annual rates we've had under Jimmy Carter. If he is deeply concerned about what he's done to the economy he certainly has a funny way of showing it.

And by the way--when Jimmy Carter speaks of his love for education as he often does, why doesn't he tell us why he has fought legislation that would offer tuition tax credits to parents sending their children to parochial and private schools?

By fighting this needed measure--which is supported by the Republican Party and which I wholeheartedly support, he is saying to millions of parents--not all of whom are Catholics by any means --that he isn't concerned about them or their right to have their children educated in schools that teach the values we cherish.

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with them. During my years as Governor of California, I approved large increases in state supplemental benefits to help the elderly keep up with increases in the cost of living. Today, ~~nine~~ years later, these benefits are still virtually the highest in the nation.

Reagan & Bush

Reagan Bush Committee

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

MEMORANDUM TO: ED MEESE
MARTY ANDERSON

September 5, 1980

FROM: William J. Casey

Jim Rhodes called to urge that both in the senior citizen's speech on Sunday and the economic speech on Tuesday we expand on the paragraph or paragraphs dealing with social security to include the following points:

1. Carter is the first American President to consider cutting back social security, which he did in his widely publicized budget cutting efforts a couple of months back. One of the options was reducing the rate by which payments would be escalated with inflation. He also considered reducing welfare benefits.

2. The study which Carter authorized on social security called for making benefit payments taxable.

W. J. C.

MEMORANDUM

5 SEPTEMBER 1980

TO: Ed Meese
✓ Bill Gavin

FROM: Gregory J. Newell *gj*
Director
Presidential Scheduling

SUBJECT: 9/7 SENIOR CITIZEN DATE - PHILADELPHIA.

We have been advised that September 7th
is National Grandparents Day.

As Governor of California I was concern^{ed} about senior citizens. Senior citizens have paid their fair share of taxes over the years and have a right to expect security and stability in their golden years. As governor I worked to help them realize their dreams.

At the time when inflation was surpassing cost-of-living increases for our retired people, I provided \$46 million in property tax relief for senior citizens, ranging from a 32 percent cut for those earning \$6,000 a year to more than 80 percent for those making \$3,000 a year and below, and up to 92 percent in the lowest income bracket.

When 15 million older Americans denounced President Carter for his proposals to cut Social Security benefits by \$600 million in fiscal 1980, I joined

*T his is language suggested
by TOM EVANS, KEMP, ETC 9-5-80*

REGAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY STATEMENT

I am firmly committed to protecting our nation's Social Security system, both for the senior citizens today and for younger Americans who will be our senior citizens tomorrow. Under the Carter administration, with its terrible economic policies, people are losing confidence in the Social Security system, and yet Social Security affects the lives of more Americans than any other federal program. About thirty-five million Americans already are receiving Social Security benefits, and I say their rights must be protected. One hundred and fourteen million Americans are paying heavily into Social Security now. They expect to receive benefits some day. I believe their rights also must be protected.

It's no wonder people are losing confidence in the Social Security system. President Carter's Advisory Council on Social Security recommended that the Federal government tax Social Security benefits. I oppose a tax on Social Security benefits now and I shall oppose it as President. Those benefits were earned through the hard work of many people over the years, and those benefits must be protected.

The Social Security system must remain strong. People have worked hard and paid into that system. I guarantee that as President I will work to protect all the benefits they earned, whether they are entitled to receive those benefits now or in the future.

Draft #1 (WFG)
9-3-80
2:00 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA "SUPER SENIOR SUNDAY" REMARKS

Jean Bergquist
357,

Philadelphia is proud to be known as city of neighborhoods.
I think all of them must be here today.

It is fitting that we should meet here. Philadelphia's museum of art is a symbol of the great cultural heritage you are so justly proud of. And, of course, these steps have been made world-famous by "Rocky." They symbolize determination, hope, a belief in a dream.

The new dream we all have for a better America can begin soon--this November.

In Ben Franklin's city, where our nation first announced its independence to the world, we are reminded in a special way that older Americans want and deserve the kind of compassion and effectiveness and responsiveness from government that the Founders envisioned.

In 1776, when, in this city, the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed, one out of every fifty Americans was 65 years of age or older. In 1980 one out of every nine Americans is 65 or over.

In 1776, in this city, the Founders gave us a Declaration of Independence. But in the past four years, Jimmy Carter has given us something different. He's given us a Declaration of Indifference --

--indifference to the plight of the homeowner,

--indifference to the worker,
--indifference to the young just starting out, and
especially

--indifference to older Americans whose happiness and peace
of mind depend on a strong, sound economy.

The Carter record is a litany of despair, of broken promises,
of sacred trusts abandoned and forgotten.

Eight million people out of work. Inflation running nearly
three times as high as four years ago. Black unemployment at
about 14 percent, higher than any single year since the government
began keeping separate statistics. Four straight major deficits
run up by Carter ^{Administration.} ~~and his friends in Congress.~~ The highest
interest rates since the Civil War--reaching at times close to 20
percent--lately down to more than 11 percent but now going up
again--productivity falling for six straight quarters among the
most productive people in history.

He promised he would not increase taxes for the lower and
middle-income people--the workers of America. Then he imposed on
American families the largest single tax increase in history.

Directly and indirectly, this crushing burden has fallen
heavily upon you and other Americans who have contributed so much
to building your country into a dynamic nation, proud to be
"Number One."

I am particularly aware of what the Carter policies have done
to women over 65. They are the fastest growing group of poor in

America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.) They are tragic victims of the Carter Declaration of Indifference.

Our older Americans are an important, vital part of the community that makes America strong.

Our older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

If you want to take a look at the future as it would be under Mr. Carter, let me quote what Jimmy Carter was saying four years ago. In 1976 he said: "Older people with fixed incomes fear the day that their lives are squeezed. An elderly person on a fixed retirement check buys inferior food, maybe has to leave one's own home..."

That's what Jimmy Carter thought of inflation when it was below ~~five~~ ^{SIX} percent. What in the world does he expect us to think of it today, when--because of his policies--it is in double digits?

Using his own commentary on the evils of inflation, things are twice as bad, three times as bad today.

But he wants us to forget about that. He doesn't want to talk about his record. He doesn't want to talk about what his policies have done ^{to all Americans but especially to those Americans on fixed incomes.} ~~because he's ashamed of his record.~~

But I'm here today to tell you that, together, we can have a new beginning.

Bob. This change is needed

As Governor of California I cared about older citizens and I did something about their problems:

I approved (cost of living increases ^A in senior citizens aid) and provided \$46 million in new property tax relief for senior citizens, ranging from 32 percent for those at the \$6,000 a year income level to more than 80 percent at \$3,000 a year and below, and up to 92 percent in the lowest income bracket.

And in case I need any reminder of what we owe to older Americans--and I don't--I have the example set by Nancy when we were in California. ~~She~~

She has been and is today this nation's most ardent supporter of the Foster Grandparents program. This program brings together the elements that make up a sense of community for all Americans: those in need, those who can help, and an awful lot of love. The experience and the tenderness, the love and the wisdom that only older citizens can bring to the care of children is at the heart of this program. Nancy saw this program work in California and through her help, we have seen it expand into other states and is part of a federal program as well.

So we will bring to Washington a commitment to the need and the hopes of older Americans, a proven record of accomplishment.

And it is on this record I intend to build a growing commitment to your needs. As President:

--I will ^{SUPPORT AND} defend the ~~integrity of~~ the Social Security system, the foundation of the economic life of millions of Americans. >

EXPAND
Focus
on Ch. Account

That system will be strong and reliable and protected under a Reagan Administration.

--I will see to it that the promises made by government to every older American under the Medicare and other programs are kept.

--I will institute real tax reforms that can help older Americans retain their dignity, their self-respect, and their self-reliance as productive members of society. I will not tolerate, and will fight with all my strength, the inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse of government programs. Many of these programs are aimed at older Americans.

A May 31, 1979, Congressional Joint Economic Committee report cited a Justice Department estimate that deliberate fraud and abuse accounted for one to ten percent of the federal programs--that's \$2.5 to \$25 billion. "That excludes waste," the report noted. Including waste would give a much higher figure.

This waste is not only economically unacceptable, it is an insult to millions of older Americans who have to watch every penny, to scrimp and save while the federal government squanders tax dollars.

They know where those tax dollars come from and they are tired of hearing the same old excuses about how it can't be helped. It can be helped and we know it.

I say it's time the federal government starts watching every penny and older Americans start getting their money's worth out of taxes and their full value out of social security and pensions!

That's the spirit I'm going to bring to Washington. That's the spirit of Philadelphia. That's the spirit that older Americans want to see once more in government.

And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day, I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!" And now let's get on with the job.

With your help, with your vote--and I need and want both, and do not hesitate to ask for them--we will start that task in January 1981.

Thank you.

To :Drew Lewis

Fr: Bill Gavin

Yes, believe it or not there is a Grandparents Day on
Sept. 7.

Indeed it came about through a House resolution(HJ Res 613)

10 July 1978---

~~xPresidentxsignedit~~

There was nother such resolution

Recognized by 49 states...oddly enough Massachusetts is the
only state not to recognize it...

4 Sept
3:30pm

To
Bill Gavin.
eng.

WILLIAM E. TIMMONS
PRESIDENT


MEMO

9/4/80

TO BOB GARRICK -

- ① may be a little long to hold audience.
- ② There are a few marginal notes for your consideration.

BT

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Senator Paul Laxalt

Ambassador Anne Armstrong

William Casey

Edward Meese

Jim Baker

Dean Burch
(For Ambassador George Bush)

Peter Daily

Mike Deaver

Drew Lewis

Lyn Nofziger

Verne Orr

✓ Bill Timmons

Dick Wirthlin

Richard Allen

Martin Anderson

Jim Brady

Ed Gray

Others

Thursday, 4 Sept. 1980

From: Bob Garrick

OUT AT: 10:00 AM

✚ Any corrections on the
attached speech will have
to be returned to me by
3:00 p.m. Friday 5 Sept.

X X X

This speech is to be
given Sunday, 7 Sept.
"Super Senior Sunday"
in Philadelphia.


X X X

Sept. 4, 1980
9:30 a.m.

TO: Bob Garrick

FROM: Bill Gavin

Suggested insert in Text of "Philadelphia Senior Citizen Remarks" for September 7, 1980. These lines would be inserted at the bottom of page four, right after the sentence about Social Security which ends "...millions of Americans." Then the following would be inserted:



"Now I know that you've been hearing from others what they think my views are on this crucial issue. So I thought today you'd want to hear my views as I see them and as I will continue to see them as President. Let me repeat: As President, I will defend the integrity of the Social Security system."

Bob -- Then we pick it up on the top of the next page (5) with the other sentence about his commitment to Social Security.

Draft #1 (WFG)
9-3-80
2:00 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA "SUPER SENIOR SUNDAY" REMARKS

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It is fitting that we should meet here. Philadelphia's museum of art is a symbol of the great cultural heritage you are so justly proud of. And, of course, these steps have been made world-famous by "Rocky." They symbolize determination, hope, a belief in a dream.

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--indifference to the worker,
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--indifference to older Americans whose happiness and peace
of mind depend on a strong, sound economy.

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about 14 percent, higher than any single year since the government
began keeping separate statistics. Four straight major deficits
run up by ^R Carter ^{Administration} ~~and his friends in Congress.~~ The highest
interest rates since the Civil War--reaching at times close to 20
percent--lately down to more than 11 percent but now going up
again--productivity falling for six straight quarters among the
most productive people in history.

He promised he would not increase taxes for the lower and
middle-income people--the workers of America. Then he imposed on
American families the largest single tax increase in history.

Directly and indirectly, this crushing burden has fallen
heavily upon you and other Americans who have contributed so much
to building your country into a dynamic nation, proud to be
"Number One."

I am particularly aware of what the Carter policies have done
to women over 65. They are the fastest growing group of poor in

America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.) They are tragic victims of the Carter Declaration of Indifference.

Our older Americans are an important, vital part of the community that makes America strong.

Our older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

If you want to take a look at the future as it would be under Mr. Carter, let me quote what Jimmy Carter was saying four years ago. In 1976 he said: "Older people with fixed incomes fear the day that their lives are squeezed. An elderly person on a fixed retirement check buys inferior food, maybe has to leave one's own home..."

That's what Jimmy Carter thought of inflation when it was below ~~two~~ ^{SIX} percent. What in the world does he expect us to think of it today, when--because of his policies--it is in double digits?

Using his own commentary on the evils of inflation, things are twice as bad, three times as bad today.

But he wants us to forget about that. He doesn't want to talk about his record. He doesn't want to talk about what his policies have done, because he's ashamed of his record.

TO ALL AMERICANS BUT PARTICULARLY THOSE AMERICANS

But I'm here today to tell you that, together, we can have a new beginning.

ON FIXED INCOMES.

As Governor of California I cared about older citizens and I did something about their problems:

I approved cost of living increases in senior citizens aid and provided \$46 million in new property tax relief for senior citizens, ranging from 32 percent for those at the \$6,000 a year income level to more than 80 percent at \$3,000 a year and below, and up to 92 percent in the lowest income bracket.

And in case I need any reminder of what we owe to older Americans--and I don't--I have the example set by Nancy when we were in California.

She has been and is today this nation's most ardent supporter of the Foster Grandparents program. This program brings together the elements that make up a sense of community for all Americans: those in need, those who can help, and an awful lot of love. The experience and the tenderness, the love and the wisdom that only older citizens can bring to the care of children is at the heart of this program. Nancy saw this program work in California and through her help, we have seen it expand into other states and is part of a federal program as well.

So we will bring to Washington a commitment to the need and the hopes of older Americans, a proven record of accomplishment.

And it is on this record I intend to build a growing commitment to your needs. As President,

~~I~~ will defend the integrity of the Social Security system, the foundation of the economic life of millions of Americans.

CAN'T
SEE
MOM
AFTER
CALIF.
RECORD?

3-PROFIT

INSERT

I don't think this is precise enough

That system will be strong and reliable and protected under a Reagan Administration.

--I will see to it that the promises made by government to every older American under the Medicare and other programs are kept.

--I will institute real tax reforms that can help older Americans retain their dignity, their self-respect, and their self-reliance as productive members of society. I will not tolerate, and will fight with all my strength, the inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse of government programs. Many of these programs are aimed at older Americans.

A May 31, 1979, Congressional Joint Economic Committee report cited a Justice Department estimate that deliberate fraud and abuse accounted for one to ten percent of the federal programs--that's \$2.5 to \$25 billion. "That excludes waste," the report noted. Including waste would give a much higher figure.

This waste is not only economically unacceptable, it is an insult to millions of older Americans who have to watch every penny, to scrimp and save while the federal government squanders tax dollars.

They know where those tax dollars come from and they are tired of hearing the same old excuses about how it can't be helped. It can be helped and we know it.

I say it's time the federal government starts watching every penny and older Americans start getting their money's worth out of taxes and their full value out of social security and pensions!

That's the spirit I'm going to bring to Washington. That's the spirit of Philadelphia. That's the spirit that older Americans want to see once more in government.

And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day, I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!" And now let's get on with the job.

With your help, with your vote--and I need and want both, and do not hesitate to ask for them--we will start that task in January 1981.

Thank you.