The original documents are located in Box 39, folder "Reagan - General" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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RONALD WILSON REAGAN

Ronald Reagan was elected 33rd Governor of California on November 8, 1966. He was re-elected Nov. 3, 1970 for second four-year term. He did not seek re-election to third term.

Gov. Reagan was born Feb. 6, 1911 in Tampico, Ill., to Nellie and John Reagan. He married the former Nancy Davis on March 4, 1952. The couple has two children, a daughter, Patricia Ann, (22) and a son, Ronald Prescott, (17). They reside in Pacific Palisades (Los Angeles), Calif.

Gov. Reagan also has two other children, Maureen, and Michael.

Ronald Reagan was educated in the public schools of Illinois. He was graduated from Eureka College, Eureka, Ill., in 1932 with a degree in economics and sociology. In college he was student body president, captain of the swimming team and a three-year letterman in football.

Honorary degrees include: doctorate, humane letters, Eureka College, 1957; doctorate of laws, Pepperdine College, 1970, and doctorate of laws, Azusa Pacific College, 1973.

Military service includes service as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Cavalry Reserve before World War II and four years as member of the Air Force, 1942-46. He was discharged with the rank of captain.

Gov. Reagan began his career as a sports announcer and editor for Central Broadcasting Co., which included the station WHO in Des Moines, Iowa.

He became a film actor in 1937 and appeared in 50 featured pictures. He was a player and production supervisor of television's General Electric Theater for eight years. He hosted and acted in the Death Valley Days television series. For many years he owned and operated a horse breeding and cattle ranch.

Since leaving office Gov. Reagan has done a daily commentary on approximately 300 radio stations, written a syndicated weekly newspaper column and spoken to numerous civic, business and political groups around the nation.

(MORE)

Public service includes: President, Screen Actors Guild, six terms. President, Motion Picture Industry Council, two terms. Board of Directors, Screen Actors Guild, 14 years. Representated motion picture industry (31 unions and all management groups) before House Ways and Means Committee of Congress on tax matters affecting industry. Member, Board of Directors, Committee on Fundamental Education. Member, Board of Directors, St. John's Hospital. Served on Board of Trustees, Eureka College. Received Humanitarian Award, National Conference of Christian and Jews, 1962. Chosen Father of the Year (motion picture industry) by National Fathers Day Committee, 1957. Board of Directors, Motion Picture Industry Council, ten years. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, 1970. Appointed by President Nixon. National Governors' Conference Human Resources Committee, 1972. Member of Presidential commission investigating the CIA, 1974-75. Appointed by President Ford. Memberships include: Screen Actors Guild. American Federation, Radio and Television Artists. Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. Friars Club. Lions Club. California Thoroughbred Breeders Association. Young Men's Christian Association. Republican Governors' Association; Chairman, 1969. National Advisory Board, Young Americans for Freedom. Awards include: National Humanitarian Award from National Conference of Christians and Jews. California Home for Aged, Reseda, Award of Honor, 1953. American National Red Cross Distinguished Service, San Diego County Chapter, 1959. National Safety Council Public Interest Award, 1954. Citation for Distinguished Service - 35th Army Division Assn. Member, Navajo Clan. American Heritage Award (San Fernando Valley Business and Professional Association). Orange Empire Council Citizenship Award, 1964. Hollywood Citizenship Award, 1956, by Hollywood Foreign Press. City of Hope "Torch of Life" Award for Huminatarian Service. Award from American Newspaper Guild.

(MORE)

page 3

Awards cont'd:

Helms Commemorative Medallion presented to distinguished sportsmen and athletic leaders.

Two Freedoms Foundation Awards, 1960 and 1962, for "outstanding achievement in bringing about a better understanding of the American way of life."

UAW-AFL Honorary Gold Membership Card.

American Legion - untiring efforts and patriotic devotion in fostering and perpetuating American principles, May, 1965. American Patriots Hall of Fame.

Distinguished American Award, National Football Foundation Hall of Fame.

National Sheriff's Association, Honorary Life Membership for "personal interest and action in behalf of the Association and the advancement of progressive law enforcement."

California Junior Chamber of Commerce, Honorary Membership. AMVETS Special Achievement Award.

Horatio Alger Award, 1969.

Great American of the Decade Award by the Virginia Young Americans for Freedom, 1960-70.

San Fernando Valley Business and Professional Association "Man of the Year" Free Enterprise Award, 1964.

George Washington Honor Medal Award for public address from Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, 1971.

Gold Medal, National Football Foundation, New York, 1971. Medal of Valor of the State of Israel, 1971

George Washington Honor Medal Award for published article from Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, 1973.

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One of the biggest myths in American politics is the image of Ronald Reagan as a tight-fisted fiscal conservative.

-1-

In reality, Reagan was the biggest taxer and spender of any governor in California's history.

Lou Cannon, a political writer for the Washington Post and author of a Reagan biography, wrote in a recent article:

"At times Reagan seems to be the various things his advocates and his adversaries say about him. What Reagan says and what Reagan does are frequently contradictory. And he left a conflicting legacy after two four-year terms in the governorship."

Nowhere are the Reagan rhetoric and the Reagan record in more conflict than in the field of fiscal policy.

Let's compare the rhetoric and the record.

A letter from Sen. Paul Laxalt, R-Nevada, who is chairman of Citizens for Reagan, set the theme of the campaign.

The senator said Reagan would tell the American people

--creating and returning an \$850 million surplus to the California taxpayers.

--keeping the size of the California state government constant.

--originating and signing a massive tax relief bill which .. resulted in a \$378 million saving to California's property owners and a \$110 million saving to renters." That's the rhetoric. In detail, let's look at the record.

Q. What about the Reagan campaign claim that as governor, he created and returned an \$850 million surplus to the California taxpayers?"

A. The \$850 million surplus was not the result of any savings in state government. Rather, it was a serious miscalculation. In 1967, Reagan, in effect, 'overtaxed' Californians through an enormous \$943 million tax increase. While the tax increase was permanent, the rebate was a one-shot temporary form of relief in 1969 -- the year preceding his bid for reelection.

Q. And the claim of a "massive tax relief bill which resulted in a \$378 million saving to property owners and a \$110 million saving to renters?"

A. This was in no way the result of sound management of the state. The property tax relief was achieved by other federal and state revenues. Specifically, they were a federal revenue sharing surplus, a major increase in the state sales tax and a strong business climate.

Q. What about the Reagan campaign boast that he kept "the size of California state government constant?"

A. Under Reagan, the state budget more than doubled in eight years from \$4.6 billion to \$10.2 billion. The number of state employees increased from 113,779 in 1967 to 127,929 in 1975.

-2-.

Q. Yes, but don't inflation and the growth of California's population contribute to that budget increase?

A. Doubtless they do. But it is significant to note that under Reagan the state budget increased an average of 12.2% yearly. Under his successor, Edmund G. Brown, Jr., the increase has been 6%. And while California's population grew 1% a year during Reagan's eight-year administration, it grew 3% a year during the 14 preceding years under Governors Edmund G. Brown, Sr. and Goodwin J. Knight.

Q. How did Reagan balance the state budget during those years that it more than doubled? By practicing fiscal economies? A. By no means. Under Reagan, there were three huge tax increases totalling more than \$2 billion. In 1967, there was an increase of \$967 million -- the largest state tax hike in the nation's history. Of this, \$280 million went for a one-time deficit payment and future property tax relief. In 1971, the increase was \$488 million with \$150 million for property tax relief. In 1972, the increase was \$682 million with \$650 million for property tax relief. Much of this property tax relief was short term. But the overall tax increases were permanent.

Q. How was this money raised?

A. By all sorts of taxes. State personal income tax revenues went from \$500 million to \$2.5 billion, a 500% increase. Top bracket levies were increased from 7% to 11%. The size of the brackets was reduced so that taxpayers reached the highest bracket more quickly. And personal exemptions were reduced. Finally, after adamantly denying he would ever do so, the governor agreed to a system of withholding state income taxes.

Bank and corporation taxes went up 100%. The state sales tax rose from 4% to 6%. The tax on cigarettes went up 7 cents a pack and the liquor tax rose 50 cents per gallon. Inheritance tax rates also were increased and collections more than doubled.

Q. But didn't taxpayers benefit from local property tax relief?

A. Hardly. Under Reagan, the average tax rate for each \$100 of assessed valuation rose from \$8.84 to \$11.15. Under predecessor Pat Brown the increase was much less in dollars and percentage -from \$6.96 to \$8.84. And in the six years of Republican Knight's administration it was still less -- from \$5.94 to \$6.96. One reason for the big increase under Reagan -- from \$3.7 billion to \$8.3 billion -- is that the state paid a steadily smaller percentage of school costs -- one of the biggest reasons for local property taxes.

Despite periodic efforts to provide relief, there has been a substantial increase in the burden carried by most property owners. Inflation and higher assessments have helped wipe out any savings. Only \$855 million of the record \$10.2 billion budget in Reagan's final year was for tax relief for homeowners and renters.

Q. What did Reagan have to say about all this spending?A. Nothing very consistent. In his first inaugural message

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on January 5, 1967, he said "we are going to squeeze and cut and trim until we reduce the cost of government."

On July 9, 1967, he said in a televised speech that as long as California grows in population and as long as the country is in an inflationary spiral "we will have a record breaking budget every year...and that is roughly 8%."

-5-

On Oct. 2, 1967, Reagan was asked in Milwaukee about his comment that he balanced the budget without new taxes. He replied: "We raised the old ones about \$1 billion."

Q. Many of Reagan's supporters claim that the reason for the huge budget increases in his administration was because of increases in assistance to local governments?

A. That's true. And under the same logic, we could eliminate about \$60 billion from the federal budget spent for assistance to the states. Extending that bookkeeping system to foreign aid and assistance to individuals, nearly three-fourths -of-the federal budget could be disregarded. If Reagan is going to continue to criticize the growth of the federal budget, he has to accept similar criticism on the growth of California's budget while he was governor. He can't have it both ways.

"This is former Gov. Reagan's basic stump speech. There is nothing new in it ... nothing that hasn't already been repudiated by a majority of Republican voters.

"The American voter can clearly perceive the difference between this type of negative rhetoric and the positive record of President Ford in leading the nation toward economic recovery at home and peace through strength abroad."



Reagan on:

Connally--talked to him several weeks ago; a good friend; Connally said he would stay neutral in the primary and Reagan said that probably would happen.

(canal) Ford-- is committed to turning/it over to the Panamanians. (Panama Canal hit hard).

Energy--thinks the solution is for the government to get out of the energy busines (was asked if it is unfair for the people in Texas to pay 3-4 times on Gas at the well-head --since no controls). Thought that Zarb had talked Ford into signing the energy bill.

Politics--in the primary he has an uphill battle and that Ford has the party structure behind him. In particular, Sen. Tower (Roussell says this is false). Said that Ford will outspend him there.

Main thing was Panama Canal



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Sanford Socolow, Vice President

1/07/76 Row Here in last of 15545 and transcript or Research Interner as broadcast CAS Horning News used different g horning. vortures following Call yo





CANDIDATE ISSUE QUESTIONS:

high cost of living or inflation

unemployment

military commitments and arms limitation

dissatisfaction with government

the energy crisis

the control of crime

busing



3BS EVENING NEWS WITH WALTER CRONKITE

11/24/75

CRONKITE: As this '76 Presidential campaign's been getting underway, we've been talking with the major candidates about the issues - the issues as determined by a CBS News nationwide poll. Tonight, the candidate in our report is Ronald Reagan, who has just challenged President Ford for the Republican nomination.

He is 64 years old, a former actor, former California Governor, a radio commentator - a featured attraction on the mashed potato circuit - and now a long-shot Presidential contender. "Long-shot" because winning the nomination from an incumbent President is never easy. Yet there are those who think that Ronald Reagan has a good crack at damaging an accidental President in the primaries.

Where does Reagan stand on the issues. In a nutshell, on the far right. He preaches the gospel of fundamental conservatism.

REAGAN: The answer to inflation has to be a balanced budget. Government spending within its means, not invading the capital market. And to do that, the Government has got to review its spending policies and come back to-- to that position where we're not constantly increasing the money supply over and above the goods and services that you can buy with that money. CRONKITE: In point of fact, what-- what, really, you're saying is that there has to be a reduction in the services rendered by

Government, whether Federal, state or local?

REAGAN: Yes, and the recognition that many of them are totally out of line. Without any basis, they are-- they're neither solving the problems they were created to solve, nor are they effectively helping the people they were intended to help.

CRONKITE: If balancing the budget is Reagan's answer to solving inflation, it's also his answer to the problem of unemployment. He offers no guarantied jobs or public works programs.

REAGAN: It's like a long illness. You can treat that illness by just trying to ease the pain, or you can get at the cure of

12

CBS EVENING NEWS WITH WALTER CRONKITE

11.1

the-- cure the disease, and not have the pain any more. In the meantime, naturally there's going to be some suffering. But I think our problem has been that unemployment becomes so political, politically unpopular, that we turn to palliatives, turn to fighting that, fighting the recession, fighting the unemployment - and, in so doing, put ourselves back on the same inflationary spiral that caused it in the first place.

11/24/75

CRONKITE: Reagan's answer to the peoples' dissatisfaction with Government is decentralization; reduce the Federal bureaucracy.

REAGAN: The greatest dissatisfaction seems to be with Government at the highest level - Federal Government. Maybe some of that's been triggered by the events of the last two years, but I think more of it is due to the fact that Government-- We've centralized it so much. We've moved so much to Washington that really belongs at the local level. The whole theory of this government of ours, of government as much as possible at the level nearest the people, we-- we've reversed that. And the people have a sense that they can't influence government, that it is too far away and too big, and it doesn't matter whether they even vote or not.

CRONKITE: Reagan's advocacy of wholesale cuts in Government spending does not include the defense budget.

REAGAN: I think the concept that we might be spending more on armaments and building too much in the field of armaments, that is not true. No, I think that where actual weaponry and strength is concerned, that we're rapidly coming to a second-- second-place position, and I don't think we can afford that.

CBS EVENING NEWS WITH WALTER CRONKITE

11/24/75

CRONKITE: On controlling crime, which our CBS News poll found to be a major concern of those questioned, Reagan advocates mandatory sentences for anyone convicted of committing a crime with a gun.

What about the twin issues of energy and the environment? How would Reagan as President handle them?

REAGAN: I think that Government should review its regulations, its taxing policies, and find out how it could free and encourage the research and the exploration not only of new sources of energy but of further development of those resources we have - the gasification of coal, more oil, the offshore situation with oil, and deregulation, decontrol of prices.

CRONKITE: Does the impact of the search for new energy sources on the environment worry you?

REAGAN: Yes, but I believe there is a happy meeting ground on this. I don't think that the panic is warranted of some of the environmentalists about offshore oil drilling.

CRONKITE: Reagan is undisputed leader of the Republican right. His followers don't merely *like* him; they *believe* in him.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 19, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JERRY JONES

FROM:

FOSTER CHANOCK

Reagan is certain to comment on the State of the Union and budget by saying "It's good to see the President adopting my policies but he's not going far enough."

Some of these notions might be useful to get out to our congressional people, PFC guys, or press briefings. President's policies are his own and different.

1. President's policy of block grants gives flexibility and responsibility to states but does not force them to raise taxes.

2. Block grants was in 1968 Republican platform.

3. Tax-cut and spending restraint are traditional sound Republican principles which have been with us at least since World War II.

4. Some congressional colleague might point out that the President has favored this kind of financial responsibility for twenty-five years.

January 19, 1976

-2.7

THE \$423 BILLION ESTIMATE Reconciliation of Current 1977 Outlay Estimates with Estimates of October 6, 1975

| | | | | | | (Billions) |
|------------|-------|------------|---------|---------|-------------------|------------|
| October 6, | 1975 | estimates | of 1977 | outlays | •••••• | \$423.1 |
| 1. Change | s đue | to Congres | ssional | action | lator information | |

. Changes due to Congressional action, later information, or changes in economic assumptions:

A. Changes in entitlement or open-ended programs:

| Medicare and medicaid (later information and changed | |
|--|------|
| economic assumptions) | +2.0 |
| Earned income credit (added by Revenue Adjustment | |
| Act of 1975) | +0.6 |
| Farm price supports (later information) | -0.4 |
| Social security and railroad retirement (later | |
| information and changed economic assumptions) | -0.5 |
| Food stamp program (later information and changed | |
| economic assumptions) | -1.0 |
| Interest (later information and changed economic | |
| assumptions): | |
| Interest on the debt | -1.5 |
| Other interest - largely offsetting interest | |
| receipts from off-budget enterprises | -1.6 |
| Other entitlement or open-ended programs (Congres- | |
| sional action, later information and changed | |
| economic assumptions) | -0.4 |
| • | |
| Total, changes in entitlement or open-ended | |

programs

B. Changes in other programs (due to Congressional action or later information):

| Offshore oilland receipts (an offset to outlays) | |
|---|--|
| decrease from \$8 billion to \$6 billion +2.0 | |
| Health program Increase implicit in vetoed 1976 | |
| Labor-HEW appropriation bill +1.2 ^a | / |
| EPA construction grants (later information)0.4 | |
| Community development grants (later information)0.5 | A FORD |
| Defense and military assistance (Congressional and | |
| later information)0.9 | |
| Farmers Home Administration largely loan programs | 1 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A |
| (later information)1.0 | |
| Contingencies (from \$3.5 to \$1.5 billion)2.0 | and a second |
| All other, net (Congressional and later information)0.5 | |
| | * |
| Total, changes in other programs | -2.1 |

2. Other reductions that can be separately identified, including those resulting from proposed program reforms, and others intended to moderate budget growth: $\underline{b}/$

National defense:

Defense--military:

Budgeted changes in Federal pay increases:

Total, Defense--military..... -4.0

Disposal of surplus stockpile -- (An offset to outlays) Legislation to permit sale of surplus no longer needed... -0.7

- <u>Medicare reform</u> -- Represents net effect of proposal to provide protection against catastrophic medical costs (+\$538 million) and of other reforms. The latter includes a limit on increases in payment rates (7% per day for hospitals and 4% for physician's services) (-\$909 million) and more cost sharing to provide against over-utilization (by requiring, after the first day, payment of 10% of hospital charges and an annual deductible, both only up to the maximum) (-\$1,860 million).... -2.2

2

-1.4

3

Education programs -- Legislation is again proposed to limit Federal impact aid to those school districts involving students whose parents both live and work on Federal property (-\$285 million) (See Seventy Issues, p.110); outlays for other elementary and secondary programs are below the level implicit in Congressional action on 1976 appropriations but still higher than the Administration's estimates for 1976.

<u>Veterans programs</u> -- Under the GI bill, savings of over \$800 million are planned. Legislation will be proposed to limit program to an 8-year eligibility period (rather than current 10-year) (-\$624 million); to terminate program for future members of the peacetime All-Volunteer Force (-\$54 million) and to eliminate flight and correspondence school benefits (-\$35 million). Collection of overpayments will also be accelerated (\$100 million).

Other proposed savings include legislation requiring that health insurers reimburse the VA medical system for covered care (-\$130 million); and elimination of burial benefits that duplicate benefits of other Federal programs (-\$85 million).....

-1.0

(Billions)

| Social security and disability insurance Legislation will be proposed to (1) eliminate the provision of law that allows some new retirees to receive an initial lump-sum payment in exchange for permanently reduced future monthly benefits; | · . |
|--|------|
| (2) convert the retirement test to an annual rather than monthly test; and (3) phase-out student benefits over a four-year period. See <u>Seventy Issues</u> , p. 183. Also support of vocational rehabilitation paid from social security trust funds is held to the 1976 level while awaiting development of peeded memory is period. | |
| development of needed reporting systems to insure proper use | -0.9 |
| <u>Child nutrition program reform</u> The reform proposals would aim to (1) enable States to feed 700,000 poor children who do not now participate while eliminating subsidies to the non-poor; (2) end excessive and unproductive administrative complexities including fragmentation and overlapping; and (3) give States greater flexibility to tailor feeding programs to local needs and preferences. See <u>Seventy Issues</u> , p. 143 | -0.9 |
| Special unemployment assistance and Federal supplemental benefits With the improvement in the economy, the Administration proposes that these temporary programs | |
| expire March 31, 1977 as scheduled | -0.8 |
| Public assistance - Legislation has been proposed to simplify the formula for aid to families with dependent children and to revise and simplify the program to focus on the most | |
| <pre>needy Urban mass transit Legislation will be proposed to limit to 50% the portion of formula grants that may be used for transit system operating subsidies in 1977 and future</pre> | -0.3 |
| years. See Seventy Issues, p. 85 | -0.2 |
| Highway program Non-interstate categorical assistance will be reduced and folded into three broad programs to provide more State and local flexibility. In the interstate program, emphasis will be given to routes necessary to | |
| complete the Federal system. See <u>Seventy Issues</u> , p.84 <u>Space programs</u> Procurement of third shuttle orbiter will be deferred for a year. Certain other shuttle-related payload and support activities, as well as some space science activities, are also being reduced <u>or</u> delayed. | |
| (See Seventy Issues, p. 31) | -0,1 |
| | |

4

(Billions)

5

| Federal employee retirement payments Legislation will be proposed to eliminate the 1% "kicker" each time retirees receive a cost-of-living increase (see also "Defense" above)0.1 | |
|---|-------|
| State Employment Security Agency administrative expenses | |
| The added staffing provided in the vetoed 1976 Labor-HEW | |
| appropriation bill is not needed because evidence shows | |
| that increasing the staff does not insure the number of | |
| jobs found for the unemployed and that there is considerable | |
| opportunity to increase efficiency0.1 | |
| Other actions to accomplish savings, increase productivity, and reduce or delete less desirable programs | -20.1 |
| Total, other reductions | -20.1 |
| . Congressional increases threatened and included in October 6 | |
| estimate; comparable amount still threatened | -4.0 |
| anuary 1976 outlay estimate | 394.2 |

- a/ Congressional initiatives threatened as covered below in this paper include only new programs, not Congressional add-ons in the appropriation process. Accordingly, the Congressional add-on of \$1.2 billion to this bill for health programs is displayed here. The President's veto of this bill is a restraint. Therefore, an approximately equal offsetting amount is reflected in the Health programs item of \$-1.4 billion displayed under "2" below.
- b/ It is virtually impossible to distinguish with great precision the difference between changes due to later information or economic assumptions and other reductions. While the distinction is clear for such specific actions as proposed legislation or rescission actions, it is more difficult to determine the distinction on such matters as assumed productivity increases and changes from agency estimates made during the budget process.





NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY: February 24 FLORIDA PRIMARY: March 9 ILLINOIS PRIMARY: March 16 NORTH CAROLINA PRIMARY: March 23

Fellow American,

As you can see, time is very short!

The New Hampshire Primary (first in the nation) is only a few weeks away...and on the heels of the New Hampshire Primary are the critical primaries in Florida, Illinois, and North Carolina.

The opposition would like nothing better than to derail the Reagan Campaign in these key primary states.

Although the recent national polls are very encouraging, and although the Reagan Campaign is building momentum, <u>Ronald Reagan is an underdog going into the New Hampshire</u> <u>Primary</u>.

He is challenging an incumbent (although unelected) President of the United States.

Power. Money. Incumbency. These are the cards stacked against the Presidential candidacy of Ronald Reagan.

Quite simply--the only way Ronald Reagan can overcome these obstacles is to receive your support and that of millions of other concerned Americans.

Stop and consider. The choice is up to you.

Ronald Reagan has a solid record of achievement as Governor of California. He reduced the welfare rolls by more than 300,000, stemmed the growth of government, returned \$850 million to the taxpayers, and signed legislation which resulted in a \$488 million saving to property owners and renters.. And he did all this in spite of an entrenched bureaucracy and an opposition majority in both houses of the state legislature!

Just consider what he could do as President of the United States.

Now, more than ever before, the United States of America needs Ronald Reagan.

He will not be taken in by the false promises of the Communists, he will stand up to Congress, and he will make sure that our military might is second to none.

CAMPAIGN BUDGET

| NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY | \$ 200,000.00 |
|------------------------|----------------|
| FLORIDA PRIMARY | \$ 922,000.00 |
| ILLINOIS PRIMARY | \$1,200.000.00 |
| NORTH CAROLINA PRIMARY | \$582,000.00 |
| TOTAL | \$2,904,000.00 |

Ronald Reagan is determined to win, but he must have your help!

In order to meet this minimum campaign budget, <u>everyone</u> who supports the candidacy of Ronald Reagan and who receives this letter must respond.

Here's how you can help...Send the Reagan Campaign a check today in the enclosed white envelope (campaign funds are very tight!), then on February 18 send your second check in the gold envelope, and finally send your third check in the pink envelope on March 3 to keep the funds rolling in for the tough primary battles in Florida, Illinois, and North Carolina.

<u>Please mail all three checks</u> and if possible when you mail the third check on March 3, please try to <u>double</u> your previous contribution. This will give Ronald Reagan the necessary funds to run an effective campaign in <u>all</u> the early primaries.

Remember...In order to win, Ronald Reagan must have your repeated support throughout the first four primaries.

The truth of the matter is that it takes literally millions of dollars to run a Presidential campaign. Money is needed for advertising, printing, telephones, postage, campaign staff, office rent, etc. The Reagan Campaign needs thousands of contributions of \$15, \$50, \$100, and even \$1,000 in order to wage an effective race for the office of President.

Please be generous...your dollars may make the difference!

Sincerely,

Paul Laxalt, USS National Chairman Citizens for Reagan

PL/ke

P.S. Don't forget, Ronald Reagan needs your check today (white envelope), on February 18 (gold envelope), and again on March 3 (pink envelope). Thank you.



| (Please indicate whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc. Please print) | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-------|-----|-----|------|------|-------|----|----|
| Name | • | | | | | | | | |
| Address | | | | | | | | | _ |
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| | | | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | | | | | | | 26 | | |

SEND 2ND CHECK FEB 18!

29

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No Postage Stamp Necessary if Mailed in the United States

Postage Will Be Paid By:

REAGAN CAMPAIGN NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY

Citizens for Reagan Suite 800 1835 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006 Senator Laxalt:

I agree that serious changes are needed in America. I am enclosing my check in the amount of:

□ \$20 □ \$40 □ \$50 □ \$100 □ \$250 □ \$500 □ \$1000 □ \$ other

Make all checks payable to Reagan Primary Campaign and return in this postage-paid envelope.

A federal statute requires us to request the following information:

Occupation

Business Address

City, State, Zip_____

RETURN THIS ENVELOPE ON FEBRUARY 18!

MORE FEDERAL REGULATIONS: I certify that this check is a purely individual and personal contribution even though it may be made on a business, partnership, or other type of account. (If more than one individual is contributing, please specify the percentage attributable to each.)

Signature of contributor(s)

INDIVIDUAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE UP TO A TOTAL OF \$100 PER YEAR OR \$200 ON A JOINT RETURN.

In accordance with federal legislation, we are not able to accept either (a) any corporate checks whatever, or (b) any personal contributions over \$1000. Citizens for Reagan may accept individual contributions up to \$1000 (for example, a husband and wife may each give \$1000) prior to a nominating convention; this may be repeated following the convention. A copy of our report will be filed with the Federal Election Commission and will be available for purchase from that office in Washington, D.C.

Henry M. Buchanan, Treasurer

If you receive more than one copy of this appeal... Please understand that we are using many mailing lists in this important project and that occasional duplications will occur. Won't you share any extra copies you receive with a friend? Thanks for your understanding and continued support.

Make necessary corrections in address shown below

MAIL YOUR CHECK TODAY!

FIRST CLASS Permit No. 72124 Wash D.C.

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

No Postage Stamp Necessary if Mailed in the United States

Postage Will Be Paid By:

REAGAN PRIMARY CAMPAIGN

Citizens for Reagan Suite 800 1835 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

Senator Laxalt:

I agree that serious changes are needed in America. I am enclosing my check in the amount of:

□ \$20 □ \$40 □ \$50 □ \$100 □ \$250 □ \$500 □ \$1000 □ \$ other

Make all checks payable to Reagan Primary Campaign and return in this postage-paid envelope.

A federal statute requires us to request the following information:

Occupation_

Business Address

City, State, Zip_____

MAIL YOUR CHECK TODAY!

MORE FEDERAL REGULATIONS: I certify that this check is a purely individual and personal contribution even though it may be made on a business, partnership, or other type of account. (If more than one individual is contributing, please specify the percentage attributable to each.)

Signature of contributor(s)

INDIVIDUAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE UP TO A TOTAL OF \$100 PER YEAR OR \$200 ON A JOINT RETURN.

In accordance with federal legislation, we are not able to accept either (a) any corporate checks whatever or (b) any personal contributions over \$1000. Citizens for Reagan may accept individual contributions up to \$1000 (for example, a husband and wife may each give \$1000) prior to a nominating convention, this may be repeated following the convention. A copy of our report will be filed with the Federal Election Commission and will be available for purchase from that office in Washington, D.C.

Henry M. Buchanan, Treasurer

(Please indicate whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc. Please print)

| Name | | |
|---------|---------------------|--|
| Address | Concerns one of the | <u> </u> |
| City | State | Zip |
| | | MARCH Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat 1 2 3 4 5 6 |

SEND 3RD CHECK MARCH 3!

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FIRST CLASS Permit No. 72124 Wash, D.C.

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BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

No Postage Stamp Necessary if Mailed in the United States

Postage Will Be Paid By:

REAGAN CAMPAIGN FLORIDA/ILLINOIS PRIMARIES

Citizens for Reagan

Suite 800 1835 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006 Senator Laxalt:

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□ \$20 □ \$40 □ \$50 □ \$100 □ \$250 □ \$500 □ \$1000 □ \$ other

Make all checks payable to Reagan Primary Campaign and return in this postage-paid envelope.

A federal statute requires us to request the following information:

Occupation

Business Address

City, State, Zip_____

RETURN THIS ENVELOPE ON MARCH 3!

MORE FEDERAL REGULATIONS: I certify that this check is a purely individual and personal contribution even though it may be made on a business, partnership, or other type of account. (If more than one individual is contributing, please specify the percentage attributable to each.)

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Mr. Con Hessen

S. Arger A.

The White House

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20500

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

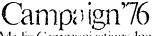
Ron:

FYI -----

Tim

4 /5





Media Communications, Inc.

1829 L STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 (202) 833-8950

April 2, 1976

| MEMORANDUM | FOR: | STU SPENCER |
|------------|------|-------------------|
| FROM: | · | BRUCE WAGNER |
| SUBJECT: | | REAGAN RADIO COPY |

The attached Reagan radio commercials were produced in Wisconsin last evening. They will be airing in Wisconsin over this weekend and are sponsored by the Wisconsin Citizens for Reagan.

The five minute spot is reported to be a "special" and not for general airing.

c.c. Tim Austin Peter Dailey Ed DeBolt Roy Hughes Peter Kaye Rog Morton Fred Slight Bob Visser



:60 RADIO- (REAGAN)

ANNOUNCER:

Ronald Reagan is not a Washington career politician. Throughout his campaign Ronald Reagan has wisely and decisively stood up

for the rights of the private citizen and local government. RR: "We can no longer afford politics as usual; a time has come for those we send to Washington to stop thinking about the next election and start thinking about the next generation."

ANNOUNCER: Ronald Reagan believes that the American voters should have more control over the future of his country.

RR: "Few, quarrel with government aims when it sets out to nelp improve our lives. But the target usually remains untouched inspite of the fact that they are using our money for ammunition Surely a government would turn to the private sector for help I think they could find more imaginative solutions to this problem."

ANNOUNCER: Republicans, Democrats and Independents on Tuesday, vote for the strong new leadership America needs. Vote Reagan.

THE PRECEEDING ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN PAID FOR BY THE WISCONSIN CITIZENS FOR REAGAN. DON L. TAYLOR WAUKESHAU TREASURER. . :60 RADIO (REAGAN)

ANNOUNCER: Ronald Reagan is the candidate that has spoken out on the issues that affect your wallet, your family's safety and your children's right to a decent education.

- RR: "All of us grew up in an America that has some characteristics that seem to have been lost down through the years. Such things as the work ethic, the belief in reward for excellence and the idea that there was no ceiling on what a person in this country could achieve if he is willing to go after it. But more and more there seems to be those that have decided we can't control our own destiny and that we must have an elite in the nation's Capitol make all the decisions for us. I believe this can be turned around."
- ANNOUNCER: You have a decision to make on April 6th. <u>Next Tuesday vote</u> as if your future and that of your family's depended on that <u>vote</u>. <u>Elect your President this time around</u>. This Tuesday vote Reagan.

THE PRECEEDING ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN PAID FOR BY WISCONSIN CITIZENS FOR REAGAN, DON M. TAYLOR WAUKESHAU TREASURER.

:60 RADIO (REAGAN)

RR

AMNOUNCER: Ronald Reagan knows that the voters of Wisconsin are concerned with the course that the present administration has taken with our foreign policy

> "All I can see is what other nations the world over, see: collapse of the American will and the retreat of American power. There is little doubt in my mind that the Soviet Union will not stop taking advantage of detente until it sees that the American people have elected a new President. What do I offer the American people in place of the delusion of detente? I offer them what I believe the truth, that all our concessions have not brought genuine peace any closer; that this nation must trust less in the preemptive concessions we're granting the Soviet Union, and more in the reestablishment of American military superiority."

ANNOUNCER: On Tuesday, vote for the strong new leadership America needs. Vote Reagan.

> PRECEEDING ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN PAID FOR BY WISCONSIN CITIZENS FOR REAGAN, DON M. TAYLOR WAUKESHAU TREASURER.



THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN PAID FOR BY WISCONSIN CITIZENS FOR REAGAN, DON M. TAYLOR WAUKESHAU TREASURER.

ANNOUNCER: There are many questions Racine and Wisconsin voters must ask themselves before they go to the polls on April 6th. Many candidates, both Republican and Democrats, will be on your primary ballot seeking your vote for President. It will be a choice only you can make. However, there are some things that you should remember next Tuesday. Ronald Reagan has answered the questions Racine and Wisconsin voters have asked concerning the future of this country.

"All I can see is what other nations the world over, see: collapse of the American will and the retreat of American power. There is little doubt in my mind that the Soviet Union will not stop taking advantage of detente until it sees that the American people have elected a new President. What do I offer the American people in place of the dillusion of detente? I offer them what I believe the truth, that all our concessions have not brought genuine peace any closer; that this nation must trust less in the preemptive concessions we're granting the Soviet Union and more in the reestablishment of American military superiority." ANNOUNCER: Ronald Reagan has gladly and decisively stood up for the rights of

the private citizen and local government.

RR: "Few guarrel with government aims when it sets out to help improve lives but the target usually remains untouched in spite of our the fact that they are using our money for ammunition. Surely

RR

a government would turn to the private sector for help. I think they could find more imaginative solutions to this problem."

Ronald Reagan is not a Washington career politician. While serving as Governor of California, he maintained his Campaign pledge to streamline government.

RR "All of us grew up in an America that has some characteristics tha seem to have been lost down through the years. Such things as the work ethic, the belief in reward for excellence, the idea there was no ceiling on what a person in this country could achieve if he was willing to go after it. But more and more there seems to be those that have decided we can't control our own destiny and that we must have an elite in the nation's Capitol make all the decisions for us. I believe this can be turned around.

ANNOUNCER: You have a decision to make on April 6th. <u>Next Tuesday vote as if</u> your future and that of your family's depended on that vote. <u>Elec</u> your President this time around. On Tuesday, vote Reagan. He's a winner, a proven winner. In California he ran for office twice in the nation's most popular state and was twice elected Governer by a wide margin and this is a state where Democrats outnumber Republicans better than 3 to 2. 'Republicans, Democrats, Independe this Tuesday vote for Reagan.

> THE PROCEEDING ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN PAID FOR BY WISCONSIN CITIZEN FOR REAGAN, DON M. TAYLOR WAUKESHAU TREASURER.

WISCONSIN FRIMARY

REAGAN ACTIVITY

| S | pot television | : (as of 4/ | 2-3 p.m.) | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| M | ARKET | STATION | ACTIVITY LENGTH | DETAILS | OST |
| М | lilwaukee | WISN | ½ hr. program ½ hr. program | 4/4 Sun 1:30-2p \$ 4/3 Sat 7-8p | 420 900 |
| | | WITI | ½ hr. program | 4/2 Fri 11:05-11:35p | 1,000 |
| . • | | WIMJ | Nothing Ordered | | |
| | | VIVW | Nothing Ordered | | |
| G | reen Bay | WBAY | ½ hr. program | 4/3 Sat 8:30-9p \$ | 560 |
| | | WFRV | ½ hr. program | 4/3 Sat 6:30-7p | 450 |
| | | MITIK | ½ hr. program | 4/5 Mon 6:30-7p | 500 |
| M | adison | WISC | Nothing Ordered | | |
| | | WKOW | Nothing Ordered | | |
| | | WIIV | ½ hr. program | 4/2 Fri 8:30-9p | 350 |
| Wa | ausau | WSAU | 戈hr. program | 4/3 Sat 8-8:30p | 225 |
| | | WAOW | Nothing Ordered | | |
| | a Crosse- | | | | |
| Ea | | WEAU | ½ hr. program | 4/2 Fri 6:30-7p | 265 |
| | | WKBT | ½ hr. program | 4/3 Sat 7:30-8p | 530 |
| | | WXOW | Nothing Ordered | | |

No 30'sec or 60'sec spots have been ordered as of yet.



BRIEF SUMMARY OF REAGAN NEWS CONFERENCE

Austin, Texas April 14, 1976

He strongly criticized the Ford Administration's handling of the Panama Canal negotiations. Reagan quoted the President as telling an audience in Dallas last weekend that the United States would never surrender all of its control of the Canal Zone.

"Now testimony at closed hearings shows the Administration is negotiating to give up some rights to the canal and in the long run to surrender it," Reagan said.

He said that historically leaders such as Hitler, who tried to dominate the world, have considered the PanamaCanal a strategic passage.

Reagan said continued American control of the Canal is vital to the defense of the Western Hemisphere. He described the President of Panama as a "Communist-leaning dictator" and said the Ford Administration is planning to turn over the Canal to such a dictator.



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THE WHITE BOUSE

WASSINGTON

April 20, 1976

Dear Mr. Weiss:

It is my understanding that Adrian Weiss Productions has requested that I waive my rights for equal time under Section 315 of the Communications Act so that it may broadcast a number of Mr. Ronald Reagan's old films. This waiver would eliminate any claim for equal time that might arise from the showing of "Cattle Queen of Montana" and "Tennessee's Partner".

Since the nature and context of these two films do not relate to or affect the political process, I am willing to grant such waiver of my rights to equal time provided under Section 315 of the Communications Act.

Sincerely,

Mr. Adrian Weiss Adrian Weiss Productions 186 North Canon Drive Beverly Hills, California 90210



President Ford Committee

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 457-6400

April 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM

| TO: | Philip Buchen Legal Counsel |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| FROM: | Tim Ryan |

RE: Request for Waiver -- Adrian Weiss Productions

After conversations with Stu Spencer of this office and Mr. Adrian Weiss, we agree with your decision to recommend a waiver of "equal time" under Section 315 of the Communications Act for the two Reagan films noted on the draft letter to the President. If you have any comments or changes, please contact us.

T.T.R.

The President Ford Committee, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer, A copy of our Report is filed with

DRAFT OF LETTER TO ADRIAN WEISS PRODUCTIONS

Mr. Adrian Weiss Adrian Weiss Productions 186 North Canon Drive Beverly Hills, California 90210

Dear Mr. Weiss:

It is my understanding that Adrian Weiss Productions has requested that I waive my rights for equal time under Section 315 of the Communications Act so that it may broadcast a number of Mr. Ronald Reagan's old films. This waiver would eliminate any claim for equal time that might arise from the showing of "Cattle Queen of Montana" and "Tennessee's Partner".

Since the nature and context of these two films do not relate to or affect the political process, I am willing to grant such waiver of my rights to equal time provided under Section 315 of the Communications Act.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 30, 1976

Dear Bob:

As I discussed with you over the telephone, Adrian Weiss Productions would like to receive a waiver from President Ford of his rights under Section 315 of the Communications Act. The purpose of this waiver is to eliminate any claim to equal time on the part of the President that might arise from the use of broadcast facilities to show two of Ronald Reagan's old movies which are owned by Adrian Weiss Productions.

Enclosed are copies of letters received from the Productions firm. The information sheet describing the two pictures was not enclosed, but I learned by telephone that the titles of the two films are:

"Cattle Queen of Montana" "Tennessee's Partner"

I assume the titles say enough about the nature of the films. I would think it appropriate to grant the requested waiver, but I think this is a matter for the President Ford Committee to dispose of by an appropriate recommendation to the President and, if a waiver is recommended, a form of letter for the President to sign.

Enclosed also is a copy of a 1966 Federal Communication Commission's letter which deals with the subject of Section 315 waivers.

I believe Mr. Weiss would appreciate a prompt response from you.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen Counsel to the President

Mr. Robert Visser General Counsel President Ford Committee 1828 L Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20036

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 16, 1976

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP W. BUCHEN

SUBJECT: Request for Equal Time Waiver

Adrian Weiss Productions has requested that you waive your rights under Section 315 of the Communications Act to permit the television broadcast of two of Ronald Reagan's old movies --"Cattle Queen of Montana" and "Tennessee's Partner."

Recommendation

Stu Spencer, Bob Visser and I recommend that you sign the attached waiver.

> THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

> > May 5, 1976

Ron:

Here is Rodgers Morton's statement from last night.

Larry

STATEMENT BY ROGERS C.B. MORTON May 4, 1976 mannington, D.C. 200

The abrupt fall in George Wallace's fortunes, the overall lessening of competition in Democratic primaries and a coincident number of elections where crossover voting is permitted have combined to give our opponent a sudden -- and I hope temporary-advantage.

We expected to lose Georgia and Alabama and, of course, knew we had the 14 delegates from the District of Columbia.

Indiana is a disappointment. We had hoped that we would repeat our midwestern victories of Illinois and Wisconsin, but in a divided Republican Party, the infusion of a heavy turnout of Wallace Democrats was just too much.

We still have some lumps ahead of us in May -- particularly in some of the crossover states. However, I remain convinced that we have the potential for a first ballot victory in Kansas City.

Here's why.

First of all, every national poll shows the President to be far more popular than Mr. Reagan. He is the strong choice of Republicans in his treatment of foreign affairs, his economic policies, his personal qualities and his ability to pursue a moderate, non-extremist course in conducting the affairs of state

Secondly, Mr. Reagan's demagogic statements may have gained him a temporary, emotional advantage. But in the long run, they will doom his candidacy as responsible journalists, editorialists and leaders join in criticizing them.

Witness Senator Barry Goldwater's strong reaction today to Reagan's bellicose statements on the Panama Canal.

Obviously, the May primaries will prod us into an examinati of campaign strategy and tactics.

I'm not prepared to give too many details tonight, but I wi say that we will redouble and perhaps concentrate much of our attention on non-crossover states such as Ohio and California.

We will move to tie down the technically uncommitted but strongly pro-Ford delegations in the Northeast, such as New York and Pennsylvania, and augment them with delegates from other stat in the region such as New Jersey, Maryland and West Virginia. And we will continue our so-far successful efforts in convention and other primary states. Our strategy is a truly national one. It has come to my attention that Parade Magazine in its edition to be distributed May 30 has an article which suggests that I would be willing to engage Governor Reagan in a public debate during the current political campaign.

I want to make it absolutely clear that I am not challenging Governor Reagan to a debate nor would I participate in any politicality debate under any set of ground rules. The remarks attributed to me it in the article were never intended as a serious discussion, rather it they apparently grow out of some random remarks during which the writer was taking photographs of Mrs. Kissinger and myself recently in in California.

I consider foreign policy a non-partisan issue. It is for that reason that I recently cancelled two public appearances in California prior to the primary election there in order to avoid envisuch impression. It would appear that any such idea is one that the magazine would like to promote. No Secretary of State would take it seriously.

June 19767

The President has sought to unify the Republican party and bring to the Administration a wide range of views. On two occasions, the President did explore the possibility of Former Generaor Reagan taking on an administrative post. Former Governor Reagan rejected the opportunity to serve for what he said were personal reasons. May 13, 1976

belo,

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: <u>Reagan Activities in Michigan</u>

Bruce Eberle, the fund raiser for Citizens for Reagan, has hired the Richard M. Viguerie Company to do a large series of mailings, today, to anti-gun control people throughout Michigan.

Viguerie is sending a letter from Ronald Reagan to the anti-gun citizens in Michigan, stating that he has profound disagreements with President Ford on the subject of gun control. Reagan discusses the Ford Administration gun control proposals and claims that they are the first step toward the confiscation of all guns.

The letter goes on to request its recipients to (1) start chain letters on this subject with their friends and (2) to bring two people to the . polls with them on Tuesday.

The letter concludes with a statement by Governor Reagan to "send our message to the Washington politicians." (Has a familiar ring.)

My unimpeachable source assures me that in his years of experience in the direct mail business he has found that the "anti-gun people have no peer in point of utility and activism." He said compared to any other group (anti-abortion, anti-pornography, etc.) the anti-gun lobby is by far the most active and effective.

My friend advises me that the mailing will be paid for by Citizens for Reagan. He also notes that Citizens for Reagan (Eberle) wanted the Viguerie Company to mail to Wallace voter lists throughout Michigan, but because Governor Wallace is still on the ballot in that state the Viguerie Company said it would not be ethical to do this. However, a large numbers of the anti-gun group are also supporters of Governor Wallace, so that the overlap will eliminate much of the "ethical" problem. Also, note the thinly disguised appeal to Wallace voters ("send them a message," etc.).

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

RON NESSEN

FROM:

DAVE GERGEN

Over the past two weeks, Ronald Reagan has continually claimed that he won the popular vote in the primaries where he met the President head-on. He neglects, however, to include those primaries where his name did not appear on the ballot i. e. Pennsylvania and Vermont. In these two primaries, he only received a combined total of 45,406 votes while President Ford received 760,486 votes.

When the vote totals from the Pennsylvania and Vermont primaries: are taken into account, the President leads the popular vote by a margin of 52-48% (51.5-47.8%) over Reagan. The actual vote margin is about 388,000 in the President's favor.

The actual vote totals from all of the Republican primaries are

FORD 5, 363, 328

| REAGAN | 4,975,224 | |
|--------|-----------|--|
| OTHER | 57,763 | |

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Attachment

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| x | <u>Great Plain</u> | | | | | |
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| | Wyoming | 37,462 | 91, 593 | | 129, 844 | |
| | | | | | ., . | |

FOR.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: WAYNE H. VALIS

SUBJECT:

Conservative Splinter Third Party Prospects

As you can see from the enclosed most recent issue of <u>The Right</u> <u>Report</u>, hard-core conservatives are once again gearing up for a third party effort. I believe they are deadly serious about such a movement.

I also believe that some of the main movers and shakers in this effort should be brought in for consultations in the near future. Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.



JULY 2, 1976 • Vol. 5, No. 13

President Ford Committee

BOB VISSER GENERAL COUNSEL

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 457-6400

÷



1835 K Street N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006 • 202/452-7676

July 13, 1976

Robert P. Visser, Esquire T. Timothy Ryan, Esquire The President Ford Committee 1828 L Street, N.W. Suite 250 Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Bob and Tim:

Over the last month we have become increasingly disturbed by the rumors and press accounts that your committee may be planning a massive series of credentials challenges at Kansas City based solely on technical and questionable grounds. I do not know whether these reports are true or not, but I am concerned by the Virginia situation. In that state your committee has lodged a protest that I think you know is without merit and procedurally improper.

I know that you are both good Republicans as well as good lawyers and are as concerned as we are that we go into the fall campaign with a united party. While we all know that it is not unethical to lodge purely technical challenges, many would view it as unfair. Such maneuvering could easily lead to bitter procedural wrangles, the appearance of chaos to the public and almost certain defeat for the nominee who wins on what would be perceived as a "credentials steal." Neither of our candidates nor our party nor our country would be helped by this.

I have, together with others, analyzed the manner in which all the delegates to date have been chosen. Frankly, I can find no basis for any legitimate challenges. I say this with respect to all the delegates---Reagan, Ford, and Uncommitted. The delegate selection process, by and large, seems to have worked rather well. And, this has all occurred under the searching eye of a watchful press.



Robert P. Visser, Esquire T. Timothy Ryan, Esquire July 13, 1976 Page Two

The delegates thus far selected and those who will be selected between now and the convention seem to us perfectly capable of deciding between the candidates. Moreover, if they are allowed to do so in a fairly run convention, we believe the eventual nominee will have little trouble leading a united party into the fall campaign. That everyone must perceive the convention as fair is something we can both agree upon.

Because Governor Reagan feels so strongly about this, he has directed us to file no credentials challenges to any Republican delegates so far selected. We ask only that you search your consciences and refrain from the kind of frivolous tactics that could weaken the value of the Republican nomination.

In 1952, Vernon W. Thomson, then a delegate to the Republican National Convention in Chicago, and now Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, in speaking to the bitter credentials fights of that convention stated:

> "Fellow delegates, this is the hour for honesty and integrity, but it must be practiced by all the advocates of that philosophy."

I call upon your committee, whatever our other differences, to join us in an open and forthright approach to this convention. Let's battle it out for the minds and hearts of the delegates rather than squabbling over the rightful seats of honest men and women.

Yours truly,

Loren A. Smith General Counsel



STILLAT SMINGTON, MO. MENY JATJACKSONTWASH, HOWARD'VE CANNON, NEV. THOMAS J. MC INTYRE, N.H. HARRY F. BYRD, JR., VA. SAM NUNN, GA. JOHN C. CULVER, IDWA GARY HART, COLO. PATRICK J. LEAHY, VT.

JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS., CHAIRMAN STON, MO. STROM THURMOND, S.C. SCH-WASH. JOHN TOWER, TEX. NON, NEV. BARRY GOLDWATER, ARIZ. NTYRE, N.H. WILLIAM L. SCOTT, VA. , JR., VA. ROBERT TAFT, JR., OHO DEWEY F. BARTLETT, OKLA.

Anited States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

July 20, 1976

The President White House Washington, D.C.

T. EDWARD BRASWELL, JR., CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

Dear Mr. President:

Find attached a copy of a statement I am releasing to the press today. It confirms the statement I gave you in January that I was committed to vote for Governor Reagan at the 1976 Republican Convention.

Since I hold you in high esteem I wanted you to see exactly what my statement said. Again, I assure you of my full support in the event you receive the nomination.

As the Convention draws near and questions about my position increase, I felt it only fair and just to all concerned that this statement be issued now instead of at the last minute.

Respectfully,

Strom Thurmond

ST/wt Attachment



THURMOND

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (R-SC) IN REGPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT HIS VOTE FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION AT THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD AUGUST 16-19, 1976, IN MANSAS CITY, MO JULY 20, 1976

In 1972, Governor Ronald Reagan and I visited Charleston, South Carclina, to make speeches in behalf of Governor James E. Edwar who was then a candidate for the State Senate. While there, Governor Reagan indicated to me his intention to run for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1976. I have known Governor Reagan since about 1960 and have admired his positions on sound covernment. As Chief Executive of the largest State in the nation, he proved to be a decisive and dynamic leader. When he asked in 1972 for my support in 1976 I was pleased to make such a commitment to him. I plan to keep my commitment by voting for him at the Kansas City convention.

In January of this year I informed President Ford of my positic and he understood. I think highly of President Ford and should be pleased to support enthusiastically whichever of these two cutstanding men receives the Republican nomination at the convention next month.