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## FOREIGN POLICY

Our over-involvement in the internal affairs of Southeast Asian countries is resulting in a mandatory reassessment by the American people of our basic foreign policies. We have learned that never again should our country become militarily involved in the internal affairs of another nation unless there is a direct and obvious threat to the security of the United States or its people. We must not use the CIA or other covert means to effect violent change in any government or government policy. Such involvements are not in the best interests of world peace, and they are almost inherently doomed to failure.

Another lesson to be learned is that we cannot impose democracy on another country by force. Also, we cannot buy friends; and it is obvious that other nations resent it if we try. We understand the vital importance of our relationship with our allies. Our friends in Japan, Western Europe and Israel must know that we will keep our promises; they will be reassured, not by promises, but by tangible actions and regular consultations. It is particularly important that we re-cement strained relationships with our allies.

We must never again keep secret the evolution of our foreign policy from the Congress and the American people.

Secretaries of State and Defense and other cabinet officers should regularly appear before Congress, hopefully in televised sessions, to answer hard questions and to give straight answers. No equivocation or unwarranted secrecy should be permitted.

This is no time for thoughts of isolationism. Interdependence among nations is an unavoidable and increasing factor in our individual lives. Our own temporary embargo of soybeans and other oil seeds was a damaging mistake to ourselves and to our friends, like Japan. The relationship between Japan and the United States is based on firm pillars of interest--our mutual security and our great economic relationship. Major foreign policy actions affecting the other must be thoroughly discussed in advance. We must cooperate with our allies in reducing our demands for fossil fuel, assist them in the alternative development of energy resources, build up common stockpiles, plan jointly for future crises, and share the oil investments of the OPEC countries.

Among our people there is broad support for continuing the policy of detente with the Soviet Union and China--but not at the expense of close cooperation and consultation with our friends and allies. Detente should be pursued on a mutually beneficial basis through a series of sustained, low key and open discussions among the participants--and not just dramatic or secret agreements among two or three national leaders.

We must end the continuing proliferation of atomic weapons throughout the world. We should refuse to sell nuclear power plants and fuels to nations who do not sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty or who will not agree to adhere to strict provisions regarding international control of atomic wastes. The establishment of additional nuclear-free zones in the world must also be encouraged. Our ultimate goal should be the reduction of nuclear weapons, in all nations, to zero.

The United States has an inevitable role of leadership to play within the community of nations. We must reassert our vital interest in human rights and humanitarian concerns, and we must provide enlightened leadership in the world community. The people of the United States want to be trusted and respected, and we are determined, therefore, to be trustworthy and respectful of others.



file-debate (last)

from Foster

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Isiah 32:17

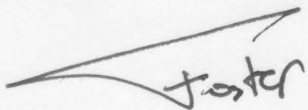
The work of  
righteousness is peace.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Mike Duval  
from Roter  
Mike



A handwritten signature that appears to be "Jester" written in a stylized, cursive script. The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the main text.

N.B. highlighted are key phrases

Mr. President, this month every major gun magazine is quoting a letter from you to the NRA, supporting the NRA stand against a ban on Saturday Night Specials (SNS).

1. Question: Early in your administration you supported banning S.N.S. Now you appear to have changed your mind. Is this an obvious attempt to appease the gun lobby?

Answer: Your question has many parts. First, let me answer about my position on guns in general and hand guns in particular.

(a) I have always opposed and will oppose, any Federal law requiring the registration of guns. I believe that such a law would harass honest, decent, law abiding citizens, while at the same time criminals who expect to use guns illegally would not register their guns. Such a law would probably cause honest citizens who fear confiscation to hide these guns. This would make criminals of honest citizens. That's exactly what happened with the prohibition amendment. People drank alcohol anyway, legal or illegal. Americans will remember that outlawing alcohol increased bootlegging. The same will happen with black market

~~guns produced abroad.~~

Secondly, when I became President a number of agencies and departments were already proposing legislation on hand guns. I submitted that legislature <sup>ION</sup> ~~ture~~ to the Congress with <sup>the</sup> ~~a~~ understanding that I would not support any legislation which ~~did~~ not carefully ~~define a Saturday Night Special.~~ Since the time that legislature <sup>ION</sup> ~~ture~~ was submitted, <sup>have</sup> there ~~has~~ been a number of meetings at the White House where ~~in~~ we met with a cross-section of sportmen and their representatives, hunters, target shooters, and authorities on the field of fire ~~arms.~~ Over the last year I have been <sup>g</sup> persuaded that the ~~term SNS is very deceptive.~~ On the one hand, <sup>the some definitions</sup> ~~it~~ includes guns which cost well over \$250 which is not cheap by anybody's terms. On the other hand, earlier definitions include very large hand guns which one would never include in one's thinking about SNS. <sup>propose bills add</sup> Current ~~legislation adds~~ still another ridiculous term of "easily consealable hand guns". Well, that means all hand guns. In fact brush hunters prefer <sup>short barrel</sup> ~~shoulder barrel~~ rifles and shotguns which are easily consealable.

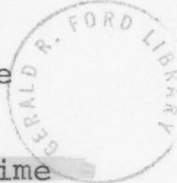


To make matters worse the Congress is moving toward loose, flexible and ambiguous definitions leaving the Federal bureaucrats to define as they see fit. Sportsmen justifiably fear probable confiscation of their guns by bureaucratic manipulation of definitions.

America wants freedom from the Washington bureaucrat. They have had it with cars that won't start without seat belts, <sup>bans</sup> ~~ban~~ against all male or female choirs or father and son swims.

I will not sign a bill that will turn over to Federal bureaucrats still another of the rights of our citizens.

Now, Lets look at the term "gun lobby." If you mean am I the candidate of the millions and millions of hunters, sportsmen, target shooters, and gun owners who subscribe to all of the gun magazines, the answer is yes. They will support me because I am trying to perserve their time honored right to choose their recreational <sup>pass-</sup> ~~past~~ time be it hunting, target shooting or collecting. These are tax payers, honest citizens, and members of clubs and associations. They are not profit making dealers, manufacturers or producers. When



people say the NRA is a gun lobby they fail to understand the term lobby. <sup>Gov.</sup> ~~Mr.~~ Carter's supporters have said they will destroy the NRA in 3 years. To do so they will destroy the rights of the American people not only to hunt but to enjoy whatever associations their sports dictate.

On the other hand, there are manufacturers who do sell weapons for profit. In the last debate Mr. Carter said he opposed the increase in American arms sales to other countries. It appears, then, that he would rather see other countries manufacture and sell those weapons. I am in favor of the rights of our people to enjoy their time honored hobbies in the free exercises of their legal right. I am also in favor of manufacturing, selling, and producing jobs for our people in these industries. Mr. Carter is against both of those positions i.e. both the sportsman and the industrial workers.

[Carter will immediately deny this. Whereupon, Ford should point to October NRA issue. Mention Morris Dees, mention former police Commissioner Patrick Murphy who was in favor of total dissarmament of the American citizens]





2. Question: All of the public polls show massive support for gun control. Why are you opposing it?

Answer: That depends upon which poll you consult. As you know the wording of a question determines the response. In the most recent polls, I've seen the findings of earlier polls reversed.

3. Question: Urban violence is a major problem in American cities.

Don't you believe that by removing handguns we will save lives,  
not only <sup>from</sup> in crime but <sup>from</sup> in accidental shootings?

Answer: To stop the accidental taking of human lives would you prohibit riding in cars, motorcycles, or participating in thousands of activities which result in the accidental loss of life? Think of how ridiculous it would be for us to decide that in order to stop automobile deaths which occur from drunk drivers we should take automobiles away from everybody else.

Ours is not so much a problem of crime in the streets as it is of crime in the courtroom. The way to stop urban violence is for judges to get tough and use the laws that are already on the books.

I do not run the Judiciary. Separation of powers places that branch of government ~~as~~ <sup>from the Executive,</sup> independent, as it should be. The only thing I can do and will do is appoint tough conservative judges at every level of the Federal bench. That takes time, and given four more years I promise conservative, tough judges. Would

respect to crimes with guns I would declare war on those who

use fire arms, long, short whatever to commit crimes. I would

propose a ten year manditory sentence for those using fire arms

in the commission of a crime.

not just H. guns

4. Question: Mr. President, why do you lump hunters along with those who own hand guns? Mr. Carters/ says he is not in favor of hurting hunters.

Answer: If you picked up any of the magazines you referred to earlier or if you knew anything at all about hunting, you would know that here are millions of hunters who hunt with hand guns.

Moreover, a great percentage of hunters own hand guns.

*many of the*

~~The~~ same people who are clammering for elimination of hand guns have as their ultimate goal the removal of long guns. I call your attention to that incredible anti-hunter TV documentary last year called "The Guns of Autumn". That film portrayed every American hunter as some sort of barbarian. That film outraged millions of hunters in every state. That film is part of a continuing war on the American sportsman. You see those who advocate the elimination of weapons from our society know that they cannot take on the entire "Right to Bear Arms Issue" in one shot. In fact they also know that they cannot take on the owner-

ship of hand guns in one swoop so they have settled on a mythical category of hand guns which they have named the SNS. In short, hunters and riflemen have as much at stake on the current SNS debate as do those who own hand guns.

THE WHITE HOUSE

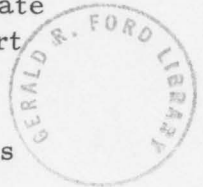
WASHINGTON

October 1, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MIKE DUVAL  
FROM: FOSTER CHANOCK *etc*  
SUBJECT: Polling Information on Foreign Policy/  
National Defense

Teeter Polls from Market Opinion Research

1. Foreign Policy and National Defense are low priority issues.
2. The President enjoys a 5:3 advantage over Carter on the ability to handle foreign policy and defense matters.
3. The President's advantage is due to incumbency and experience. People do not offer a positive reason for preferring the President. Therefore, it is to our advantage to make this area an issue if we can articulate accomplishments which give people a reason to support the President.
4. Republicans traditionally receive higher ratings in this area.
5. By a 5:3 margin, people are against defense cuts. But, if asked to cut the budget, people agree that about 8% could be cut without jeopardizing our security. Forty percent cannot place the President on the defense spending issue. Sixty percent cannot place Carter on the defense spending issue.
6. The public disapproves of the general foreign policy by a slight plurality. Those who approve have no reason.  
Disapprovers cite : Kissinger.....10%  
Isolationist reasons.....25%  
Interventionist reasons.....10%



7. In the priority states, we are doing below our normal vote with people in the Midwest and West who cite foreign policy as an important issue. Those same people do not like Kissinger.
8. The public wants us to be number one and wants to see evidence that detente benefits us.
9. Those who disapprove of Kissinger are on the ideological extremes. The public wants to see evidence of the President's running foreign policy, not Kissinger.
10. The President should not be an apologist for our international situation -- Congress is responsible for our defense cuts; the Russians are responsible for inflaming the trouble spots in the world.



National Yankelovich Poll on Foreign Policy

1. Half of the public see detente benefiting the Russians more.  
Half of the public see detente benefiting both parties equally.

2. The public strongly agrees that:

A) We should not get involved in a country's internal affairs.

B) We should not aid countries just because they are anti-Communist.

C) We should withhold aid from countries supporting our enemies.

D) We should not aid corrupt regimes where aid does not reach the people.

E) Our domestic needs should take priority over the needs of people in foreign countries.

F) We need more cooperation on food, energy, and economic problems.

3. The public less strongly agrees that:

A) We should work more closely with our allies.

B) Our foreign policy should be more moral (consistent with American values).

C) The United Nations is ineffective.

D) We should work more closely with Peking without abandoning Taiwan.

E) We must end our dependence on foreign countries for raw materials.

F) We must learn to "get along" better with countries different than our own.





4. The public is strongly divided on the subject of arms sales:
- A) They favor sales because of job creation and increased international influence.
  - B) But, they fear sales which might get us involved in another Vietnam and which encourage military governments.
  - C) Vietnam is viewed as a dark moment in American history and we should never have been there (by 70%).
5. Seventy percent of the people are worried because the U. S. is losing power and respect in the world.
6. The public will compromise morality for self-interest but they don't want to.
7. The public classifies themselves as:
- |                  |     |     |
|------------------|-----|-----|
| Interventionists |     | 44% |
| Moderates        | 33% | 33% |
| Isolationists    | 23% | 23% |



Potomac Associates National Poll

1. The general public sees the world situation facing the country and the prospects for peace as slightly worsening.
2. Confidence in our armed forces has risen as has a willingness to maintain the U.S. in a dominant military position.
3. The public sentiment for defense spending and military bases abroad has increased while military aid, economic aid and UN support are decreasing. Those against military spending and bases tend not to be our constituents (liberals, blacks, union members, and under 30). Our constituents do fear that the Russians are getting stronger at a faster rate than we are.
4. Although a large majority agree we should improve relations with Russia (trade, SALT, other cooperative agreements), few people trust them.
5. More people think that our alliances are improving in the last two years, but they find that they could be stronger.



## Conclusions

The average voter is best described as a cautious internationalist. He is uneasy about the present and the future, and therefore, supportive of being as strong as possible militarily. Vietnam left a bad taste which on the one hand encourages a desire to be strong and respected while on the other hand a reticence to become involved. There is no cause in the world which Americans would lay down their lives at present.

The electorate favors more cooperation in the areas of food, energy, and economic planning. They want to see us once again standing for what's right in the area of human values. But, they want us to be more selfish in our decision-making.

We are on the right side of the major issues in foreign policy and defense but people need a reason to be proud of their country and their President's leadership. We must be strong and we must be right. Our policy must first protect ourselves and then strive to achieve goals for other people which we set for ourselves, which ultimately benefits ourselves as well.

Carter's thematic approach restores a moral tone which people are longing for; to be friendlier with our allies, to stand up for what's right, to be tougher on our enemies, and not to get involved where it's unnecessary.

We must level with the people in the debate:

1. We must be strong enough to keep the peace.
2. We must cooperate with other countries where it benefits the United States.
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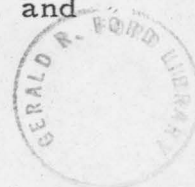


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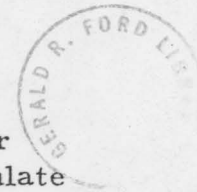
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