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TO - POLITICAL AND NATIONAL NEWS DESKS

PRW5/ PRESS RELATIONS WIRE WASH 347-5155 03/4/76

FOR RELEASE AT 4:00 P.M. EST MARCH 4, 1976--TODAY

STATEMENT BY RONALD REAGAN,
IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, MARCH 4, 1976

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS NOT EASY FOR ME TO SAY THE THINGS I MUST SAY TO YOU TODAY, BUT I HAVE DECIDED THAT MATTERS OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE ARE BEYOND POLITICS AND THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE MY ASSESSMENT OF THEM.

I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT OUR DEFENSE POSTURE. DESPITE THE ASSURANCES OF DR. KISSINGER AND MR. FORD, THE UNITED STATES IS NO LONGER THE FIRST MILITARY POWER ON EARTH.

THE SOVIET ARMY IS NOW TWICE THE SIZE OF OURS. RUSSIA'S ANNUAL INVESTMENT IN WEAPONS, STRATEGIC AND CONVENTIONAL, NOW RUNS SOME 50 PERCENT AHEAD OF OURS.

OUR NAVY IS OUTNUMBERED IN SURFACE SHIPS AND SUBMARINES 2-TO-1. WE ARE OUTGUNNED 3-TO-1 IN ARTILLERY PIECES; 4-TO-1 IN TANKS. SOVIET STRATEGIC MISSILES ARE LARGER, MORE NUMEROUS AND MORE POWERFUL THAN THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES.

UNDER MESSRS. KISSINGER AND FORD THIS NATION HAS BECOME NUMBER TWO IN MILITARY POWER IN A WORLD WHERE IT IS DANGEROUS--IF NOT FATAL--TO BE SECOND BEST. ALONG WITH THE 93RD AND 94TH CONGRESS, THE FORD-KISSINGER LEADERSHIP MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO HISTORY FOR ALLOWING THIS TO HAPPEN.

HAS THE SOVIET UNION BECOME MORE TRACTABLE, MORE ACCOMMODATING, MORE CAUTIOUS WITH ITS GROWING MILITARY SUPERIORITY? NO, THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE.

IN 1973, THE SOVIET UNION SECRETLY POURED INTO THE MIDDLE EAST THE WEAPONS USED TO LAUNCH A SURPRISE ATTACK ON ISRAEL. DR. KISSINGER SAID WE MUST NOT ALLOW THIS TO INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

THAT YEAR THE SOVIETS ALSO URGED THE ARAB STATES TO STRANGLE THE WESTERN INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES WITH THE OIL BOYCOTT. AGAIN, DR. KISSINGER SAID WE MUST NOT ALLOW THIS TO INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

IN 1974, THE SOVIETS DOUBLECROSSED KISSINGER, TORE UP THE PARIS ACCORDS FOR WHICH HE WON HIS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, AND POURED INTO HANOI THE ARMOR USED TO OVERRUN SOUTH VIETNAM AND INFLECT UPON THE UNITED STATES THE WORST HUMILIATION IN ITS HISTORY. MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER SAID IN CHORUS: WE MUST NOT LET THIS INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

LAST YEAR AND THIS, THE SOVIET UNION--USING CASTRO'S MERCENARIES -- INTERVENED DECISIVELY IN THE ANGOLA CIVIL WAR AND ROUTED THE PRO-WESTERN FORCES. YET, MESSRS. FORD AND KISSINGER CONTINUE TO TELL US THAT WE MUST NOT LET THIS INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

WELL, THE TIME HAS COME FOR MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER TO TELL US, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WHAT WE ARE GETTING OUT OF DETENTE.

WE HAVE GIVEN THE SOVIETS OUR TRADE AND OUR TECHNOLOGY. AT KISSINGER'S INSISTENCE, MR. FORD SNUBBED ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN, ONE OF THE GREAT MORAL HEROES OF OUR TIME. AT BREZHNEV'S INSISTENCE, MR. FORD FLEW HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT AT HELSINKI WHICH PLACED THE AMERICAN SEAL OF APPROVAL ON THE SOVIET EMPIRE IN EASTERN EUROPE.

WHAT HAS THE UNITED STATES GOTTEN IN RETURN, OTHER THAN SOVIET BELLIGERENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST; SOVIET DUPLICITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND SOVIET IMPERIALISM IN SOUTH CENTRAL AFRICA?

MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER ASK US TO TRUST THEIR LEADERSHIP. I CONFESS I FIND THAT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO DO. DESPITE HENRY KISSINGER'S SOPHISTICATION AND MIT, HIS RECENT STEWARDSHIP OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY HAS COINCIDED PRECISELY WITH THE LOSS OF U.S. MILITARY SUPREMACY.

DESPITE MR. FORD'S EVIDENT DECENCY, HONOR AND PATRIOTISM, HE HAS SHOWN NEITHER THE VISION NOR THE LEADERSHIP NECESSARY TO HALT AND REVERSE THE DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY DECLINE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THAT IS THE TRUTH, AND EVEN THOSE OF US WHO LIKE GERALD FORD AS A PERSON KNOW IT IS THE TRUTH.

I BELIEVE IN THE PEACE OF WHICH MR. FORD SPEAKS--AS MUCH AS ANY MAN. BUT IN PLACES SUCH AS ANGOLA, CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM, THE PEACE THEY HAVE COME TO KNOW IS THE PEACE OF THE GRAVE.

I FEAR FOR MY COUNTRY WHEN I SEE WHITE HOUSE INDIFFERENCE TO THE DECLINE OF OUR MILITARY POSITION; WHEN ELECTION YEAR RHETORIC IS USED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR STRENGTH. I WORRY WHEN I SEE HENRY KISSINGER RUSHING TO MOSCOW TO BARGAIN AWAY OUR TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH IN THE CRUISE MISSILE, A WEAPON SYSTEM WHICH MIGHT HELP RESTORE STRATEGIC EQUALITY.

IN MY VIEW, THE POLICY OF DETENTE AS PURSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION IS ONE OF MAKING "PREEMPTIVE CONCESSIONS" TO THE SOVIETS. PERHAPS THERE IS SOME GREAT STRATEGY IN THIS POLICY, BUT I CONFESS I CANNOT SEE IT.

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 AND APPOINTED A NEW SECRETARY OF STATE.

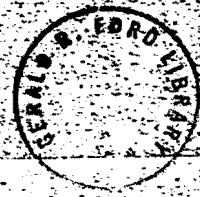
WHAT DO I OFFER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN PLACE OF THE DELUSIONS OF DETENTE? I OFFER THEM WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE THE TRUTH, THAT ALL OUR SMILES, CONCESSIONS AND TOASTS OF DETENTE HAVE NOT BROUGHT GENUINE PEACE ANY CLOSER. THE TRUTH IS THAT THIS NATION MUST TRUST LESS IN THE PREEMPTIVE CONCESSIONS WE ARE GRANTING THE SOVIET UNION AND MORE IN THE REESTABLISHMENT OF AMERICAN MILITARY SUPERIORITY.

LET US REMEMBER ONE THING: IF MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER ARE INCORRECT IN THEIR BELIEF THAT SOVIET AMBITIONS HAVE MODERATED SO MUCH THAT WE NO LONGER NEED TO MAINTAIN MILITARY SUPERIORITY, THERE WILL BE NO FUTURE OPPORTUNITY TO RECTIFY THEIR ERROR.

THESE MATTERS ARE SO CRUCIAL THAT WHAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE-- AND OF ALL THE STATES--DECIDE ABOUT THEM WILL AFFECT THE COURSE OF HISTORY.

--30--

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT LYN NOFZINGER OR JAN MCCOY/ CITIZENS FOR REAGAN FOR PRESIDENT/ WASHINGTON D.C. PHONE (202)452-7606.



[10/22/75]

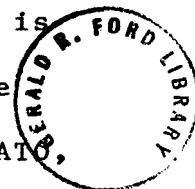
This is a transcript of a "Viewpoint" program with Ronald Reagan entitled "The Russian Wheat Deal" broadcast over KGMI radio, Bellingham, Washington, Wednesday, October 22nd.

"The Russians want to buy American wheat and American farmers want to sell their wheat and our anti-Communist waterfront workers don't want to load the wheat on foreign ships to carry it to Russia. American consumers with the experience of the previous wheat sale and high food prices in mind are alarmed.

Please don't think I am leading up to a pat answer to all these questions. It just isn't that easy.

If we believe in a free market shouldn't our farmers be allowed to sell their produce anywhere in the world for the best price they can get? To not allow this is to subsidize and make available to our own consumers low-priced food at the expense of our own farmers. Not inconsistent with that philosophy, however, is that ^{of} our own interest in our national security. If we believe the Soviet Union is hostile to the Free World, and we must or we wouldn't be maintaining a nuclear defense and continuing that in NATO, then are we not adding to our own danger by helping the troubled Soviet economy?

But isn't there also a moral issue? Are we not helping the Godless tyranny maintain its hold on millions of helpless people? Wouldn't those helpless victims have a better chance



of becoming free if their slave masters collapsed economically? One thing is certain. The threat of hunger to the Russian people is due to the Russian obsession with military power. Nothing proves the failure of Marxism more than the Soviet inability to produce weapons for its military ambition and at the same time provide for their peoples' everyday needs.

It only takes about 4% of our labor force to grow food for 211 million Americans and provide 80% of all the food shipped to the world's underdeveloped nations.

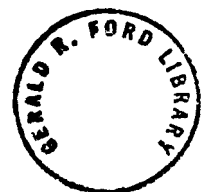
Fully one-third of the Russian workers are in agriculture and still they starve without our wheat. And the failure is not Russian, it is Communist. For every other country that has collectivized its agriculture has gone down hill in farm production. Can America force the change to peaceful pursuits on Russia by refusing to sell or would we have to persuade the other Free Nations to do the same? Following such a course, what would we do about our farmers and the surplus they have on their hands. The wheat deal is beneficial to us economically. Right now with economic troubles and balances of trade maybe it benefits us enough to outweigh the tragic factors.

In other words, it strengthens us more than we'd be benefitted by weakening them. But, the moral question in the long run won't go away. The Soviet Union is an aggressor and a threat to world peace. It can remain so only by denying its people freedom and the basic commodities that make life worth living which we take for granted.



The Russians have told us over and over again their goal is to impose an incompetent and ridiculous system on the world. We invest in armament to hold them off. But what do we envision as the eventual outcome? Whether they will see the fallacy of their way and give up their goal or their system will collapse or/and we don't let ourselves think of this. We'll have to use our weapon one day. Maybe there is an answer. We simply do what's morally right. Stop doing business with them. Let their system collapse. But in the meantime, buy our farmers wheat ourselves and have it on hand to feed the Russian people when they finally become free."

END OF TRANSCRIPT



[10/22/75]

This is a transcript of a ^Viewpoint with Ronald Reagan¹ entitled "The Russian Wheat Deal." It appears to have been broadcast on Wednesday, October 22nd. ~~Okay that's good now let's take a test. Now we'll see if it works. Don't go too fast. Are you there? Yes, I'm here. O.K., please start.~~

~~This is for purposes of a tape recording at the White House.~~ This is a transcript of a ^Viewpointⁱⁿ program with Ronald Reagan entitled "The Russian Wheat Deal" broadcast over KGMR radio, Bellingham, Washington, Wednesday, October 22nd. ¶ The Russians want to buy American wheat and American farmers want to sell their wheat and our ^{apth-}Communist waterfront workers don't want to load the wheat on foreign ships to carry it to Russia. American consumers with the experience of the previous wheat sale and high food prices in mind are alarmed. ¶ Please don't think I am leading up to a pat answer to all these questions. It just isn't that easy. ¶ If we believe in a free market shouldn't our farmers be allowed to sell their produce anywhere in the world for the best price they can get? To not allow this is to subsidize and make available to our own consumers low-priced food at the expense of our own farmers. Not inconsistent with that philosophy



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END OF TRANSCRIPT

HARTMANN: What date was this broadcast?

Answer: This was broadcast on Wednesday, October 22, according to the log at the radio station.

HARTMANN: What station?

Answer: KGMI

HARTMANN: In Seattle?

Answer: In Bellingham.

HARTMANN: Bellingham?

Answer: Uh Huh.

HARTMANN: This was while he was not a candidate but still putting out broadcasts?

Answer: Uh Huh.



HARTMANN: For which the stations paid?

Answer: That's Correct.

Yeah

And it's really that last sentence is what you are trying to get at.

HARTMANN: Yeah. That was very good and I certainly do appreciate getting this information.



DICTATED TO PAT WICHSEER OVER PHONE FROM THE FORD COMMITTEE - FRIDAY, FEB. 20
 (BY ROB QUORTOL)

QUOTES

Reagan file

FROM HOUSTON, TEXAS, 12/13/75 BEFORE THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
 IN DISCUSSING THE MORALITY OF GRAIN TO THE SOVIETS, REAGAN SAID:

"WOULD THEY, WITHOUT OUR HELP, HAVE TO ABANDON ARMS BUILDING IN ORDER
 TO FEED THEIR PEOPLE OR FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN UPRISING AND REVOLUTION
 BY A DESPERATE AND HUNGRY POPULACE? IF THE ANSWER TO THIS IS YES, THEN
 WE'RE FACED WITH THE QUESTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND PURE MORAL PRINCIPLE.
 IF OUR DECISION IS ON THE SIDE OF MORALITY AND SECURITY, WE CANNOT ASK THE
 FARMER TO BEAR THE FULL BURDEN. WE, AS A NATION, WOULD HAVE TO THINK OF
 HIS PRODUCE AS A PART OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND BE PREPARED TO OFFER A MARKET
 FOR WHAT HE RAISES. PERHAPS IT COULD EVEN BE STORED FOR FUTURE SALE WHEN
 AND IF THE SOVIET UNION CHOSSES REAL DETENTE AND ABANDONS ITS BUILDUP OF
 OFFENSE WEAPONS."

given to Mary

INTERVIEW IN OMAHA, NEB. WITH WORLD HERALD, REAGAN AGAIN RAISED QUESTION
 OF GRAIN TRADE WITH SOVIET UNION AND CHINA, SAYING WE MUST CONTINUE TO
 EVALUATE WHETHER WE ARE AIDING THEM IN ENSLAVING THEIR OWN PEOPLE AS WELL
 AS CAPTIVE SATELLITE NATIONS. HE WENT ON, IF THE U.S. EXPORTS ARE STOPPED
 TO RUSSIA AND CHINA, WE SHOULD NOT LET THE AMERICAN TAKE THE RAP. THE U.S.
 GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO RETURN TO A SYSTEM OF BUYING FARM SURPLUS.

Farmer

STORY IN LA. TIMES BY RICHARD BERGHOLZ, REAGAN IS REPORTED TO HAVE STATED THAT
 ANY LEVER WAS SUFFICIENT TO PRY THE RUSSIANS OUT OF ANGOLA, INCLUDING THE
 SALE OF WHEAT. ALTHOUGH HE REVISED THE STATEMENT ONCE, HE THEN RETURNED TO
 THE STAND THAT "ANY LEVER IS SUFFICIENT TO REMOVE THE RUSSIANS FROM
 INTERFERENCE IN ANGOLA." *1/7/76*

Call: Ford Committee

C. A. + minor satellite

Reagan coming in

Ralph

Rob's Number: 202



Harriet Jensen 426-6477

457-6436

A document. They continue to promote bloodshed and trouble in
and Portugal.

"Detente, it seems, has become a one-way street. If we are to have
tente, then let it be without illusions. George Washington, in his
farewell Address, warned, 'There can be no greater error than to expect
or calculate upon real favors from nation to nation'.

"We can exchange all the ballet dancers and opera singers we want,
but Detente's success or failure will still be measured in terms of
quid pro quo -- something for something.

"The Soviet Union continues to outspend us in armaments -- by 60% in
~~officer weapons~~ ~~25% in conventional~~. It is obvious they are building
not a defensive force, but one designed for offense. In order to do this
they must forego production of consumer goods & even food for their own.
In other words, their vaunted economic system -- the utopia of Karl Marx
cannot provide guns and butter. We, and our free world allies, should face
the question of whether we are not contributing to the slavery of their
people as well as danger to ourselves by bailing out their creaking,
incompetent system when it finds itself in trouble. Would they, without
our help, have to abandon arms building in order to feed their people or
face the possibility of an uprising and revolution by a desperate and
hungry populace? If the answer to this is yes, then we are faced with a
question of national security and pure moral principle. If our decision
is on the side of morality and security, we cannot ask the farmer to bear the
full burden. We, as a nation, would have to think of his product as
part of national defense and be prepared to offer a market for what he
raises. Perhaps it could even be stored for future sale when and if the
Soviet chooses real Detente and abandons its build-up of offensive weapons.

"We come to another color for our banner -- this one standing for a
fundamental belief in our federation of sovereign states -- the belief in

R.R. Speech 12/13/75 -- South. Rep. Conf.

more--more--more



Dick

ity of Grain Deal

By David Beeder

Ronald Reagan raised a question Tuesday night about the morality of sending U.S. food to Russia and China, and he provided Nebraska supporters with a preview of the campaign style he hopes will carry him into the White House.

In an interview in Omaha with a World-Herald newsman, Reagan said U.S. agricultural trade with Russia and China raises "a moral question" about providing food to totalitarian countries which are trying to surpass the United States in armaments, and at the same time control possibly restive, enslaved populations.

"China does provide a potential market (for U.S. agriculture)," Reagan said in response to a question.

"However, the only reason China is our friend right now is that she dislikes Russia more

played persons in this country and they are the total resource of the United States government," he said.

"There are 82.5 million receiving government checks of one kind or another, so the producers are outnumbered by 9 million persons."

Reagan, rony-cheeked, smiling and looking at least 10 years younger than his 64 years, was in Omaha to address the Nebraska Tax Research Council, an invitation he accepted more than three months ago.

The former California governor, who announced Nov. 20 he will seek the GOP presidential nomination, described 1976 as "a watershed year when we must make drastic changes" in government.

He said the only difference between financially troubled New York City and the financial problems of the federal government is that "the United States

jokes during his speech to the Nebraska Tax Research Council.

Reagan said a speech to the council about cost-cutting in government was like "saving souls in heaven" and he recalled a story about a hospitalized Irishman who was visited by a friend.

"How are you?" the visitor asked three times.

And each time the response from the man in bed was "what did you say?"

Finally, the visitor asked: "What's the matter? Are you deaf?"

The man in bed replied: "I've been lying here six weeks without a drink and your breath is like a breeze from heaven."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Tuesday 7. 1976

REAGAN ON HUSTINGS

Small Villages, Smaller Crowds

BY RICHARD BERGHOLZ

Times Political Writer

WHITEFIELD, N.H.—It was this kind of day for the campaigning Ronald Reagan:

Trailing along the icy highway north of Errol (with 195 registered voters) in snowbound northern New Hampshire, Reagan spotted five of his supporters standing in a snowbank along the highway waving three large flags.

His entourage stopped on his command and he exchanged pleasantries with Frances and Rosemary Damm and their friends.

But he did not say how the state was going to pick up the cost of programs now being paid for with federal funds.

But others talked to Reagan, privately and in public, about the issue and by the time he reached Berlin he handled it this way:

"I am not suggesting that a state that has managed to keep its credit as good as yours, and run as efficiently as yours, without an income or a sales tax, should have an income or a sales tax imposed on it."

Then, at a later question-and-answer session with his own supporters, Reagan suggested that the federal government might transfer certain of its revenue-raising powers—such as excise taxes—to the states. He did not say that this would mean the imposition of a new tax in New Hampshire.

The Angola question also continued to give Reagan problems.

The Californian, who has been taking a hard-line stance with calls for the United States to "eyeball it" with the Russians, was told by a local television reporter that the President said he did not believe the in U.S. sale of wheat to the Soviet Union should be used as a lever to force So-

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1976

Mr. Hartmann;

Gwen called and said that Reagan has put out a position paper on farm policy and she will be getting a copy of it tomorrow.

Gail

af

*copies to
Speerman
3/2/76*

51

To: Mr. Hartmann
via Gwen Anderson
From: Teresa Rosenberger
MEMORANDUM FOR:

February 2, 1976

RTH-FJI

PHS

PETER KAYE

FROM:

FRED SLIGHT

SUBJECT:

Reagan's Statements on Grain
Sales

I have received a considerable number of calls, especially from our Midwest people, in the last several weeks concerning Reagan's position or public statements on grain sales.

As best as I can determine, Reagan's comments have been generally vague and non-descript. When a small controversy arose over his flirtation with grain stockpiling, he allegedly denied holding any such viewpoint. In any event, here is a brief synopsis of what I have been able to dig up.

Case #1

In his speech in Houston before the Southern Republican Leadership Conference, Reagan discussed the morality of selling grain to the Soviet Union at a time when they continue to outspend the United States on armaments.

"Would they, without our help, have to abandon arms building in order to feed their people or face the possibility of an uprising and revolution by a desperate and hungry populace? If the answer to this is yes, then we are faced with a question of national security and pure moral principle. If our decision is on the side of morality and security, we cannot ask the farmer to bear the full burden. We, as a nation, would have to think of his produce as a part of national defense and be prepared to offer a market for what he raises. Perhaps it could even be stored for future sale when and if the Soviet choose real detente and abandons its buildup of offensive weapons."

Reagan Speech Excerpt,
Houston, Texas 12/13/75

Case #2

In an interview in Omaha, Nebraska with a World-Herald newsman, Reagan again raised the question of the United States grain trade with both the Soviet Union and Communist China. Reagan said that we should continue to evaluate whether we are "aiding them in enslaving their own people" as well as captive satellite nations.



Reagan went on to say that if U.S. agricultural exports are stopped to Russia and China, "we should not let the American farmer take the rap." The U.S. government would have to return to a system of buying farm surplus.

World Herald 12/3/75

Case #3

According to a story in the L.A. Times by Richard Bergholz, Reagan stated that any lever was sufficient to pry the Russians out of Angola, including the sale of wheat. Although he revised this statement once, he then returned to the stand that "any lever is sufficient" to remove the Russians from interference in Angola.

Los Angeles Times
1/7/76

cc: Bo Callaway
Stu Spencer

Attachments



Reagan Questions Morality of Grain Deal



By David Beeder

Ronald Reagan raised a question Tuesday night about the morality of sending U.S. food to Russia and China, and he provided Nebraska supporters with a preview of the campaign style he hopes will carry him into the White House.

In an interview in Omaha

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Reagan, rosy-cheeked, smiling and looking at least 10 years younger than his 64 years, was in Omaha to address the Nebraska Tax Research Council, an invitation he accepted more than three months ago.

The former California governor, who announced Nov. 20 he will seek the GOP presidential nomination, described 1970 as "a watershed year when we must make drastic changes" in

week," Reagan said. "It must pay \$1 billion every 10 days for interest on the national debt."

Reagan did not mention by name President Ford, his opponent for the GOP nomination, but he criticized Ford's firing of Defense Secretary James Schlesinger.

He said "Schlesinger was the only solid voice" who protested what Reagan said were U.S. policies permitting major gains in armaments by the Soviet government.

"The Russians are outspending us by 60 per cent for nuclear weapons and are spending 25 per cent more for conventional weapons," Reagan said.

No. 1 a Must

"For defense, you need

jokes during his speech to the Nebraska Tax Research Council.

Reagan said a speech to the council about cost-cutting in government was like "saving souls in heaven" and he recalled a story about a hospitalized Irishman who was visited by a friend.

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TO-- POLITICAL AND NATIONAL NEWS DESKS

PRN5/ PRESS RELATIONS WIRE WASH 347-5155 03/4/76

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IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, MARCH 4, 1976

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I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT OUR DEFENSE POSTURE. DESPITE THE ASSURANCES OF DR. KISSINGER AND MR. FORD, THE UNITED STATES IS NO LONGER THE FIRST MILITARY POWER ON EARTH.

THE SOVIET ARMY IS NOW TWICE THE SIZE OF OURS. RUSSIA'S ANNUAL INVESTMENT IN WEAPONS, STRATEGIC AND CONVENTIONAL, NOW RUNS SOME 50 PERCENT AHEAD OF OURS.

OUR NAVY IS OUTNUMBERED IN SURFACE SHIPS AND SUBMARINES 2-TO-1. WE ARE OUTGUNNED 3-TO-1 IN ARTILLERY PIECES; 4-TO-1 IN TANKS. SOVIET STRATEGIC MISSILES ARE LARGER, MORE NUMEROUS AND MORE POWERFUL THAN THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES.

UNDER MESSRS. KISSINGER AND FORD THIS NATION HAS BECOME NUMBER TWO IN MILITARY POWER IN A WORLD WHERE IT IS DANGEROUS--IF NOT FATAL--TO BE SECOND BEST. ALONG WITH THE 93RD AND 94TH CONGRESS, THE FORD-KISSINGER LEADERSHIP MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO HISTORY FOR ALLOWING THIS TO HAPPEN.

HAS THE SOVIET UNION BECOME MORE TRACTABLE, MORE ACCOMMODATING, MORE CAUTIOUS WITH ITS GROWING MILITARY SUPERIORITY? NO, THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE.

IN 1973, THE SOVIET UNION SECRETLY POURED INTO THE MIDDLE EAST THE WEAPONS USED TO LAUNCH A SURPRISE ATTACK ON ISRAEL. DR. KISSINGER SAID WE MUST NOT ALLOW THIS TO INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

THAT YEAR THE SOVIETS ALSO URGED THE ARAB STATES TO STRANGLE THE WESTERN INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES WITH THE OIL BOYCOTT. AGAIN, DR. KISSINGER SAID WE MUST NOT ALLOW THIS TO INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

IN 1974, THE SOVIETS DOUBLECROSSED KISSINGER, TORE UP THE PARIS ACCORDS FOR WHICH HE WON HIS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, AND POURED INTO HANOI THE ARMOR USED TO OVERRUN SOUTH VIETNAM AND INFLECT UPON THE UNITED STATES THE WORST HUMILIATION IN ITS HISTORY. MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER SAID IN CHORUS: WE MUST NOT LET THIS INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

LAST YEAR AND THIS, THE SOVIET UNION--USING CASTRO'S MERCENARIES -- INTERVENED DECISIVELY IN THE ANGOLA CIVIL WAR AND ROUTED THE PRO-WESTERN FORCES. YET, MESSRS. FORD AND KISSINGER CONTINUE TO TELL US THAT WE MUST NOT LET THIS INTERFERE WITH DETENTE.

WELL, THE TIME HAS COME FOR MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER TO TELL US, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WHAT WE ARE GETTING OUT OF DETENTE.

WE HAVE GIVEN THE SOVIETS OUR TRADE AND OUR TECHNOLOGY. AT KISSINGER'S INSISTENCE, MR. FORD SNUBBED ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN, ONE OF THE GREAT MORAL HEROES OF OUR TIME. AT BREZHNEV'S INSISTENCE, MR. FORD FLEW HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT AT HELSINKI WHICH PLACED THE AMERICAN SEAL OF APPROVAL ON THE SOVIET EMPIRE IN EASTERN EUROPE.

WHAT HAS THE UNITED STATES GOTTEN IN RETURN, OTHER THAN SOVIET BELLIGERENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST; SOVIET DUPLICITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA; AND SOVIET IMPERIALISM IN SOUTH CENTRAL AFRICA?

MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER ASK US TO TRUST THEIR LEADERSHIP. I CONFESS I FIND THAT MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO DO. DESPITE HENRY KISSINGER'S SOPHISTICATION AND MIT, HIS RECENT STEWARDSHIP OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY HAS COINCIDED PRECISELY WITH THE LOSS OF U.S. MILITARY SUPREMACY.

DESPITE MR. FORD'S EVIDENT DECENCY, HONOR AND PATRIOTISM, HE HAS SHOWN NEITHER THE VISION NOR THE LEADERSHIP NECESSARY TO HALT AND REVERSE THE DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY DECLINE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THAT IS THE TRUTH, AND EVEN THOSE OF US WHO LIKE GERALD FORD AS A PERSON KNOW IT IS THE TRUTH.

I BELIEVE IN THE PEACE OF WHICH MR. FORD SPEAKS--AS MUCH AS ANY MAN. BUT, IN PLACES SUCH AS ANGOLA, CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM, THE PEACE THEY HAVE COME TO KNOW IS THE PEACE OF THE GRAVE.

I FEAR FOR MY COUNTRY WHEN I SEE WHITE HOUSE INDIFFERENCE TO THE DECLINE OF OUR MILITARY POSITION; WHEN ELECTION YEAR RHETORIC IS USED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR STRENGTH. I WORRY WHEN I SEE HENRY KISSINGER RUSHING TO MOSCOW TO BARGAIN AWAY OUR TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH IN THE CRUISE MISSILE, A WEAPON SYSTEM WHICH MIGHT HELP RESTORE STRATEGIC EQUALITY.

IN MY VIEW, THE POLICY OF DETENTE AS PURSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION IS ONE OF MAKING "PREEMPTIVE CONCESSIONS" TO THE SOVIETS. PERHAPS THERE IS SOME GREAT STRATEGY IN THIS POLICY, BUT I CONFESS I CANNOT SEE IT.

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 AND APPOINTED A NEW SECRETARY OF STATE.

WHAT DO I OFFER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN PLACE OF THE DELUSIONS OF DETENTE? I OFFER THEM WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE THE TRUTH; THAT ALL OUR SMILES, CONCESSIONS AND TOASTS OF DETENTE HAVE NOT BROUGHT GENUINE PEACE ANY CLOSER. THE TRUTH IS THAT THIS NATION MUST TRUST LESS IN THE PREEMPTIVE CONCESSIONS WE ARE GRANTING THE SOVIET UNION AND MORE IN THE REESTABLISHMENT OF AMERICAN MILITARY SUPERIORITY.

LET US REMEMBER ONE THING: IF MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER ARE INCORRECT IN THEIR BELIEF THAT SOVIET AMBITIONS HAVE MODERATED SO MUCH THAT WE NO LONGER NEED TO MAINTAIN MILITARY SUPERIORITY, THERE WILL BE NO FUTURE OPPORTUNITY TO RECTIFY THEIR ERROR.

THESE MATTERS ARE SO CRUCIAL THAT WHAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE-- AND OF ALL THE STATES--DECIDE ABOUT THEM WILL AFFECT THE COURSE OF HISTORY.

--30--

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT LYN NOFZINGER OR JAN MCCOY/ CITIZENS FOR REAGAN FOR PRESIDENT/ WASHINGTON D.C. PHONE (202)452-7505.



April 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

TIM AUSTIN

FROM:

FRED SLIGHT *SL*

SUBJECT:

Reagan Issue Statements

Attached for your inclusion in the President's Texas trip briefing book is the section entitled "REAGAN ON THE ISSUES." Also attached is a copy of an issue paper which Reagan's Florida campaign put out and which may serve as a guide for a similar piece in Texas.

For your additional information, I am providing below two excerpts from a speech which Reagan gave in Houston on December 13, 1975. Interestingly, the subject is party unity. The underlines are my own.

"...our strength (GOP) because our sense of independence has allowed us to endure. We lose some battles, but come back to fight another day. Our weakness, because, as strong minded individuals, we have often refused to pull together to win the big political battles we must win to keep our people independent of a government that continues to encroach on every facet of their lives."

"This time we (GOP) can give them a more positive reason for voting. We can prove if we are willing to take a high road that there is a difference between the parties and that we will not dilute that difference for political expediency, we will not compromise our principles."

Southern Republican Leadership
Conference
Houston, Texas
12/13/75

Attachments

cc: Stu Spencer



REAGAN ON THE ISSUES

Ronald Reagan's issue emphasis in Texas is expected to follow the pattern he set in his March 31 nationally televised address. The major themes were: foreign policy; the growth of the Federal government; and national security. An underlying theme of both his televised speech and his campaign efforts in Texas is the quality of national leadership. His recent series of half-hour paid political advertisements on local stations in Wisconsin have repeated themes from the national address and re-emphasized various aspects of these major areas of concern. In addition, Reagan is expected to increase his criticism of the Administration's energy policy, especially the President's signing of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975.

Energy

Reagan has repeatedly stated that he would have vetoed the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, if he were President. His main objection to the Act center on three basic points.

1. Increased dependence on foreign oil sources.
"That bill will increase our vulnerability to the OPEC monopoly, through decreased domestic production and increased dependence on imports of at least one million barrels a day."

"Ronald Reagan's Stand on the Issues"
January 5, 1976

2. Disincentive for domestic production.

"...it takes away any stimulant for the production of new sources of energy in this country."

"Issues and Answers"
November 30, 1975

3. Failure to satisfy needs for energy conservation.

"Now, there is a need for conservation on the part of the people, but, reducing the price of gasoline...we have to recognize it is going to encourage further use of petroleum sources."

"Issues and Answers"
November 30, 1975



Reagan is also opposed to the proposed \$100 billion Energy Independence Authority, favoring instead immediate deregulation of the oil industry and adoption of a policy of "trusting the marketplace." This desire to relax all controls on the oil industry is the core of his energy position.

"The U.S. should have an energy policy of trusting the marketplace. Get rid of the controls, trust the marketplace."

"Business Week"
February 9, 1976

In Abilene, Texas on Tuesday of this week, Reagan advocated the reinstatement of the depletion allowance tax break for petroleum producers. He declined to make a specific recommendation on a depletion percentage. Reagan is quoted as having stated:

"It's an economic fairy tale that businesses pay taxes. Business taxes are passed on to individuals, Congress took a tax break from the oil industry and the people are paying."

Foreign Policy

Ronald Reagan has accused the Ford Administration of having a foreign policy that is "wandering without aim". He has specifically criticized the following areas:

1. Angola

"We gave just enough support to one side to encourage it to fight and die but too little to give them a chance of winning. Now we're disliked by the winner, distrusted by the loser, and viewed by the world as weak and unsure."

National Television Address
March 31, 1976

2. Detente

"If detente were a two-way street it's supposed to be, we could have told the Soviet Union to stop its trouble-making and leave Angola to the Angolans."

National Television Address
March 31, 1976

3. Panama Canal

"The Canal Zone is not a colonial possession. It is sovereign U.S. territory every bit the same as Alaska and all the states that were carved from the Louisiana Purchase. We should end those negotiations and tell the General: 'We bought it, we paid for it, we built it and we intend to keep it.'"

National Televised Address
March 3, 1976



4. Cuba

"Once again--what is their (Ford Administration) policy? During this last year, they carried on a campaign to befriend Castro. They persuaded the Organization of American States to lift its trade embargo, lifted some U.S. trade restrictions, they engaged in cultural exchanges. And then, on the eve of the Florida primary election, Mr. Ford went to Florida, called Castro an outlaw, and said he'd never recognize him. But he hasn't asked our Latin American neighbors to reimpose a single sanction, nor has he taken any action himself."

National Television Address
March 31, 1976

5. Captive Nations

"...why Mr. Ford traveled halfway 'round the world to sign the Helsinki Pact, putting our stamp of approval on Russia's enslavement of captive nations? We gave away the freedom of millions of people...freedom that was not ours to give."

National Television Address
March 31, 1976

6. Secretary Kissinger

"Dr. Kissinger is quoted as saying that he thinks of the U.S. as 'Athens and the Soviet Union as Sparta. The day of the U.S. is past and today is the day of the Soviet Union.' And he added, 'My job is to negotiate the most acceptable second-best position available.'"

National Television Address
March 31, 1976

National Security

Reagan has repeatedly asserted that the United States is second to the Soviet Union in terms of military capability:

"The Soviet Army outnumbered ours more than two-to-one and in reserves four-to-one. They outspend us on weapons by 50%. Their Navy outnumbered ours in surface ships and submarines two-to-one. We are outgunned in artillery three-to-one. Their strategic nuclear missiles are larger, more powerful and more numerous than ours. The evidence mounts that we are Number Two in a world where it is dangerous, if not fatal, to be second best."

National Television Address
March 31, 1976



Growth of Federal Government

Reagan has also criticized the Federal government as being too big, having too many harassing regulations, and being unresponsive to the real needs of the American people. Among the more specific topics he will continue to attack are:

1. National debt

"It took this nation 166 years--until the middle of World War II--to finally accumulate a debt of \$95 billion. It took this administration just the last twelve months to add \$95 billion to the debt. And this administration has run almost one-fourth of our total national debt in just these short nineteen months."

National Television Address
March 31, 1976

2. Inflation

"Unless those in Washington finally learn that it (inflation) is a result of government spending more than it takes in, we will never defeat this vicious economic enemy."

Reagan Campaign Mailing
November 20, 1975

3. Government Interference

"Washington has taken over functions that don't truly belong to it. In almost every case it has been a failure. Understand, I'm speaking of those programs which logically should be administered at state and local levels." (Reagan has most frequently referred to law enforcement, education and job training, commerce and transportation, revenue sharing, health, and income security programs as those best run on a state and local level.)

National Television Address
March 31, 1976

Russian Grain Sales

"Would they (the Soviet Union), without our help, have to abandon arms building in order to feed their people or face the possibility of an uprising and revolution by a desperate and hungry populace? If the answer to this is yes, then we are faced with a question of national security and pure moral principle."

Southern Republican Leadership
Conference Speech



Reagan Tries Not to Seem Trigger Happy in Attacking Ford on Panama Canal, Cuba

BY KENNETH REICH

Times Political Writer

SAVANNAH, Ga.—At every stop these days as Ronald Reagan carries his campaign against President Ford through the South and West, he spends more time on the Panama Canal than on any other subject.

Wednesday, in every speech and television appearance as he campaigned in Macon, Augusta and Savannah for the May 4 Georgia primary, Reagan charged that Ford had opened a credibility gap by not telling the American people of his intention to negotiate "the giveaway of the canal" until it was revealed by the release of secret congressional testimony.

In short, the canal has become Reagan's No. 1 illustration of what he charges are Ford's weaknesses and lack of candor in foreign policy.

But in Albuquerque, N.M., Tuesday night, and in Augusta Wednesday, Reagan was asked whether—as Ford had suggested the Californian would do—he would break

Asked what he would do if he were in Ford's spot, Reagan says he might impose a quarantine on Cuba. But when he explains what he means by quarantine it turns out to be nothing more than a trade embargo that the United States would seek to get Canada, Latin American nations and Western European nations to go along with.

The United States currently has a trade embargo against Cuba, although it has been relaxed for some products, such as pharmaceuticals.

And Reagan doesn't close the door on eventual smoothing of relations with Castro either, although he says Castro's regime must first change its policies.

Similarly, Wednesday, on U.S. relations with North Vietnam, Reagan ripped into Ford for what he termed

"our willingness to negotiate the matter of diplomatic relations and normalization of trade and travel with the Communist regime in Vietnam."

"Why should we go hat in hand to give them a major political victory?" he asked.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE - Sat., April 24, 1976

It wasn't funny, Mr. Nessen

It's been nearly a week since White House press secretary Ron Nessen disgraced himself by appearing—along with a good deal of obscene humor—on NBC's "Saturday Night" program. And we've yet to see even an effort to excuse it.

It isn't that the White House should be

be brushed off as the kind of humor that must be accepted.

The President and Mrs. Ford have tried to conceal any embarrassment, partly no doubt because Mr. Ford himself contributed to the program in the form of taped messages and presumably authorized Mr. Nessen's appearance.

Mr. Ford should have been more care-