

The original documents are located in Box 133, folder “June 3, 1974 - Senatorial Campaign Committee Script” of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

To: The Vice President

From: Bill Roberts

Date: June 3, 1974

Time 1 a.m.
p.m.

Attached is the Seratorial Campaign Committee's script, in which I made some revisions of your portion as we discussed Saturday. Would you like a "clean copy"?



ACTION

SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE'S
SCRIPT



BROCK: The 1974 elections are going to be so unusually crucial to the future of our nation and our party that I wanted to take this opportunity to send this very personal message to you. I'm Senator Bill Brock, and as Chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, I have the job of reelecting the Republican Senators who are up this year, and defeating as many Democrat Senators as we can. I want you to know how much I appreciate your help in that regard. You have already done so much, and in asking you to do more, I'd like to call on our dear friend, the Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate, Gerald Ford. (As if addressing Ford) Mr. Vice President, I want you to know that you are speaking to a person who is dedicated to good government, just as you and I are.

FORD: Bill, I understand completely, and I appreciate this chance to talk about our situation this year. As presiding officer of the Senate, I've had a chance to observe, sadly, how we on the Republican side of the aisle are voted down time and again by the Democrats when we offer sound proposals for managing this incredibly complex government we have. Worse yet, they are able, because of their superior numbers, to

pass their own bills with relative ease, and let me tell you, some of that legislation is pretty irresponsible. There is little consideration of the taxpayers. We see some woolly social schemes and programs which would adversely affect our small businesses and other free institutions.....and so often ^{some} ~~to me~~ Democrats seem to have no appreciation whatever for the tremendously important questions of national security. Now, let me show you how it works: they have all the committee chairmen and majorities on all the committees. So whenever they get a bill together, they are able to bring it to the floor without much difficulty at all. Once there, if they can hold their own people together, they can pass it. Then, we have to count on the House of Representatives, or a Presidential veto to stop it or else it becomes law. But here's the thing that really worries me. George Meaney and some of the other Democrat leaders have stated publicly that their goal in 1974 is to elect a veto-proof Congress...that is, one in which they would have two-thirds in each House. If they ever get that, we'll be almost helpless to keep even the wildest schemes from becoming law. They're working very hard at it, and are going to spend millions in this election to get the job done. We've got to stop them to keep some balance in the Congress.

BROCK:

That's right. And that's going to require a super effort on the part of each of us. You know, I've never had the privilege of serving in a legislative body in which we had



a Republican majority. For once, I'd like to see what it's like. For example, I serve on the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, and if we had a Republican majority, John Tower would become the Chairman of that group. What a great day that would be! Senator Tower is one of the finest Americans I have ever known, and I'd like him to give you an idea of some of the things we could accomplish in the Senate if we had enough good Republicans sitting there. John?

TOWER:

I think the most important thing is that we could get to work on this problem of inflation. You know and I know that we're never going to get inflation under control until we get government spending under control. Now the Democrats are not going to do it; their philosophy is spend and spend, tax and tax. It's gotten us to where we're spending almost \$30 billion every hour of the day and night, and anyone who doesn't think that causes inflation, just doesn't understand economics.

Another area is this incredible overregulation of our businesses. You know, American businessmen spend \$18 billion a year just to fill out and return Federal forms. Agencies like the FTC, the EPA, and worst of all, OSHA, are harassing our small businessmen and ruining the productivity of our country.

Then we have all these social schemes going on -- things

like busing, the welfare mess and all that sort of thing. I'd like a chance to replace these programs with sound Republican policies that will work...which these things don't...and won't bleed the taxpayers dry...which these things do.

In the energy field, the Democrats' response has been knee-jerk. Here we are with all these shortages, and they've proposed nothing to increase the supply of energy; they even want to create a new Federal government corporation to produce oil, which is pure socialism and one of the worst ideas to come down the pike since Truman decided to fire MacArthur. Well, there are a lot of other things too, but these are some of the most important ones, for me.



BROCK: I think Senator Tower has put it very well, and identified some of the key issues that ought to be addressed by the Congress...but won't be unless we can do the job of electing Republicans this fall.

However important specific issues are, however, I think there is something that goes even beyond the issues. It has to do with the kind of a future we all want for ourselves and our children in this country. The ideals upon which our party was founded, and which have guided it throughout its history, are true to this day. Sadly, Watergate has given our opponents and opportunity to attack those ideals as never before, and if we are to preserve them, we must

redouble our efforts, and find that strength which comes from adversity. In our time, no one has articulated the Republican philosophy with greater force than the great Governor of California, Ronald Reagan. Governor, what message would you give to us as we approach this crucial election.

REAGAN:

I think it's especially important in these times to remember that we Republicans do stand for some vitally important principles. We don't always agree among ourselves; our party is no monolith, and I pray that it never becomes one. But through it all a discerning student can perceive some fundamental differences between the two parties, differences which are immensely important for the future of America.

Some of the best evidence comes from just thinking about the direction our country has taken during our lifetimes. Remember that the Democrats have controlled all but two Congresses since 1932. What sort of leadership have they given us? Think about it. Taxes that have escalated beyond the wildest imaginations of anyone in 1932. Virtually constant, ever mounting inflation. More years of war than any other 40 year period in American history. Ever-growing strength of the most dangerous foreign enemy we have ever known -- international Communism. Constant diminution of our individual liberties, surrendered to increasing hordes of bureaucrats constantly gaining new authority to pry and



snoop and interfere into every aspect of our lives. Crime. Drugs. Moral decay. The replacing of the work ethic with the welfare ethic. It's quite a story, and for me, a sad one. Read the history of the world, and see what has been the result of similar trends in other nations. Will the decline and fall of America be written about our times?

It need not be; it must not be. Within our party, the Republican Party, lie the essential understandings of history and human nature which can save America.

Republicans believe in individual liberty -- that people allowed to be free can solve their own problems far better than government programs which restrict freedom. Republicans believe in the economic counterpart of liberty -- the free market system, which has demonstrated the capacity to provide for our material needs far better than any scheme for government-operated economic control. Republicans believe that that government is best which is closest to the people -- and that all power should not be given to Washington, at the expense of our vital state and local governments. Republicans believe that national security is attainable only by maintaining national strength, buttressed by diplomatic skill and common sense. Republicans believe that those who violate the law must be made to pay the penalties of the law, be they the crimes of Watergate or the crimes of the street. You and I believe in these things, and in 1974, we must put our beliefs to work as never before.



BROCK:

There is our challenge. We couldn't ask for it any clearer. I want you to know how very proud of you I am, and how much I appreciate all that you do. But eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and there is always so much more that must be done. May we count on your continued, and renewed support? Thank you.

