

The original documents are located in Box D20, folder “Republican Associates of San Diego County, San Diego, CA, April 15, 1966” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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April 7
1966

Introduction--Big name guests, speaker's table, etc.

1. Gag about the Virgin of ~~the~~ the Governors Island.

2. Joke about the rugged individualist filing his income tax return--
(Don't write in this space.... ~~I'll write~~ "I'll write where I damn well please").

3. Midnight Friday night is (was) deadline for filing income tax returns. Two-week breather. Then on May 1 they start taking it away from you faster under increased schedule of withholding. They don't want you to spend it, but ~~under~~ in Lyndon Johnson's Great Society, it's perfectly o.k. for federal gov't to blow as much of your dough as they can take away from you--and more.

4. Long before the Great Society's Income Tax Day, I detected shift in political atmosphere.

a. Democrats going down; Republicans going up.

b. Why? Democrats divided on ~~the~~ Vietnam--people won't stand for division within party in power on foreign policy. Want unity on question of achieving peace, maintaining national security.

BASIC SPEECH *2* In San Diego, talk mostly about Vnam; Other pts, about inflation

Following is for San Diego

J-H ADMINISTRATION FUMBLING THE BALL ON VIETNAM

1. Civil unrest ~~that~~ has been shaking Vietnam and hampering ~~war effort~~ ^{war effort.}
~~(under street)~~

2. Johnson's quickie conference with Premier Ky last February at Honolulu bad mistake. Present political troubles in Vietnam ~~due to it~~ ^{stem from} because fuss made over Ky at Honolulu, fanned fierce political rivalries.

3. ~~Widely agreed~~ Demonstrations started when Ky fired Lt. Gen. (Nguyen Chanh) Thi, 1st corps comdr at Danang. Widely agreed Ky wouldn't have dared to purge Thi if ~~the~~ Honolulu conference had never taken place.

4. Hope current trouble in Vietnam produces gov't with enough popular support to move forward effectively on both the military and social fronts.

5. But ^{neutralist} fear new government may emerge in near future which will sue for peace with Viet Cong and demand U.S. forces get out.

---THEN THE CHICKENS HATCHED AT HONOLULU WILL ~~REALLY~~ REALLY COME HOME TO ROOST.

REPUBLICANS UNITED ON OBJECTIVE OF STOPPING COMMUNIST AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM

1. Have backed Democratic Administrations on this basic goal since '61.
2. This ~~does not~~ mean GOP cannot make constructive suggestions; has duty to do so as Loyal Opposition.
3. ~~No~~ ^{No} intention of second-guessing Johnson on day-to-day military decisions. It's his job as commander-in-chief of armed forces to ~~run~~ run the war on day-to-day basis.
4. Democrats divided ~~on~~ on Vietnam. This ~~frustrating~~ dampens our drive to ~~help~~ help Vietnam ~~thwart~~ thwart communist aggression. ~~People~~ People will turn to party united on Vietnam policy--Republican Party.



Folloing ~~is~~ is for San Diego:::Others???

1. Mismanagement in Defense Department.

- a. Shortage of bombs in Vietnam...shortage of 750 and 500-pound iron bombs ~~for dropping by B-52s~~ for dropping by B-52s conceded by McNamara.
- b. Serious ~~Army~~ deficiencies in men and material ~~in Army~~ ^{in Army} reported by Stennis Subcommittee.
- c. These ~~deficiencies~~ deficiencies reported by Sen. Stennis' subcommittee on preparedness; ~~and~~ withdrawal of 15,000 Army specialists from West Germany confirmed the strain.
- d. ~~None~~ None of the major National Guard or Reserve units is ready for combat.
- e. There are shortages in clothing, illuminating rounds and certain types of fuses, also in communications equipment.
- f. Many tanks, trucks and other automotive units are ~~sidelined~~ ^{Sidelined} for lack of trained maintenance personnel to keep them running.
- g. Stennis subcommittee has warned of dangerous "drawdown" of supplies from West Germany and other NATO allies to meet Vietnam needs.

SLOWING OF WAR, REDUCED COMBAT READINESS OF U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE DENIED BY ADM'N

1. American people losing confidence in Adm'n...Credibility Gap becoming as wide as the Grand Canyon.

2. Despite drawdown of men and materiel from Europe for Vietnam war, Def. Secy. McNamara heatedly denied any lessening of our combat readiness.

3. Undersecretary of State George Ball on nationwide television ^{last Sunday} denied civil disorders in Vietnam had hurt the war effort, but next day U.S. officials in ~~V~~ Saigon admitted there was bomb shortage and cutback in bombing activity because of the political trouble. (Stevedores at Danang had refused to unload bombs destined for Danang Air Base.)

4. Truth is (according to NY Times military expert Hanson Baldwin) that U.S. forces in Europe are at ~~lowest~~ lower strength level than at any time since before Berlin crisis of 1961.

BASIC SPEECH 5a-- Insert--Burbank

For Use in Burbank

TWO ALTERNATIVES ON FORCING STALEMATE, GAINING PEACE IN VIETNAM

1. Under present ~~strategy~~ strategy, it looks like ~~xxx~~ a war without end.

2. Adm'n is planning to send more troops to Vietnam, perhaps double present commitment.

3. Republican alternative is to make fully effective use of our air and sea power. Do this before send even one more of our fine boys to Vietnam. Try this in hope of ending war soon, achieving honorable and lasting peace.

MUST ALSO ~~PLEASE~~ MOVE QUICKLY ON ~~xxx~~ SOCIAL FRONT ON ~~xx~~ VIETNAM

1. But pacification, like war effort, disrupted by civil ~~xxx~~ unrest.

2. Also, Johnson plan set at Honolulu looks good on paper but isn't working. Viet Cong come back into villages at night, undo American accomplishments.

VIETNAM WAR AND ~~THE~~ BUDGET

1. War costing a billion dollars a month--still Johnson and Democratic Congress determined to do business as usual and spend an additional \$3 billion or more in fiscal 1967 on ~~the~~ Great Society programs.

2. If Congress approves Johnson's budget,--and the Democrats ~~probably~~ will add to it instead of cutting it--we're in line for....

- a. Higher taxes
- b. Higher prices
- c. Higher deficits

---THE GREAT SOCIETY WILL ~~BEEN~~ BECOME THE HIGH SOCIETY.

3. President has deliberately...
- a. Underestimated expenditures
 - b. Overestimated revenues
 - c. Minimized the deficit



-6a-

BASIC SPEECH. ..San Diego ~~insert~~ insert

For use at San Diego

LBJ AND ~~THE~~ PHONY ECONOMY

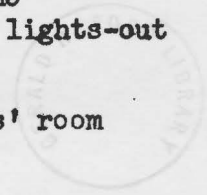
1. Republicans must be right in trying to cut federal spending. The master politician, LBJ, now is ~~pretending to get in on the act~~ talking economy.

2. That is all Johnson has ever done about economy--talk about it.

3. Johnson's kind of economy is THE GREAT HYPOCRISY of the GREAT SOCIETY.

4. Best example of this is the fact that savings from his much-publicized lights-out campaign at the White House have been negligible. On that we have the word of T. Sutton Jett, National Capital Parks Director, who recently testified before a House appropriations subcommittee that the lights-out savings were very small.

5. Lyndon still goes around turning out the light in the ladies' room at the White House but everybody's onto him now.



IBJ AND PHONY BUDGET

1. ^{so-called} IBJ economy phony, so is IBJ budget for fiscal 1967.
2. ~~He came up with~~ He came up with "only" \$1.8 billion deficit ~~through~~ not only through sleight-of-hand bookkeeping but through fictional spending cuts.
3. He proposed cuts in established, successful programs--reductions he knew no congressman could go for. These were cuts in school lunch and school milk programs, cuts for land grant colleges, ~~the~~ agricultural extension service, meat inspection and impact school aid.
4. If he really thinks this money shouldn't be spent on these programs, he doesn't have to spend it even if Congress restores the funds. He can freeze this money, just as Defense Secretary McNamara froze more than \$600 million in military construction funds last December--including money for 800 desperately needed units of ~~military~~ housing for our military men and their families.

BASIC SPEECH 7-A

MORE ON PHONY JOHNSON FRUGALITY

~~GREAT SOCIETY IS A GREAT HYPOCRISY~~

~~1. IBJ's ^{Frugality} is phony.~~

~~2. IBJ still turning off lights in ladies' room at White House, but an Administration official has testified before House appropriations committee that savings from entire lights-out campaign negligible.~~

5. Council of State Chambers of Commerce, after careful study, has conservatively estimated ~~at~~ that cost of Great Society programs will skyrocket from \$3.1 billion in 1965 to \$21.5 billion in 1970. These are built-in increases. That's why Republicans oppose "small" programs like Rent Supplements, that start at \$12 million this fiscal year.
6. Still playing the game of make-believe, Mr. Johnson last Saturday signed the 4-H bill...Hubert Horatio Humphrey House, but said he would not ask Congress this year for money to build ~~it~~ ^{the \$750,000 V-Palace} because it is "neither necessary nor appropriate at this time." Bill provides \$45,000 in architect's fees to be spent this year.

INFLATION

1. We're in wartime inflation.
2. During four months, November through February, wholesale prices climbed at 6 per cent annual rate. Levelling off in March doesn't mean much. There still will be steady uptrend.
3. I predict cost of living will jump at least 3 per cent the rest of this year.
4. Four deficits in ~~xx~~ a row--49 per cent increase in federal spending since 1960.
5. This fantastic growth in cost of federal government, this unbelievable increase in federal spending is primarily responsible for the ~~xx~~ inflation we're experiencing today.

BASIC SPEECH
FOR ASSOCIATES
~~xx xx xx xx xx~~

-9-

~~xx~~~~xx xx xx xx~~Talk about Shell-Game on Tax Cuts

but how is it going to make those cuts stick?

Congress cut ~~the~~ income taxes in 1964 and excise taxes in 1965. That great shell-game operator, LBJ, is ~~stupid~~ *"real good" at their business* now-you-see-it-now-you-don't. ~~He~~ He ~~has~~ has ~~already~~ already wiped out part of the excise tax cuts by boosting taxes on telephone ~~and automobile~~ service and ~~new~~ cars. Now he's talking about a \$5 billion income tax boost--and ~~is~~ trying to wish it away by asking ~~the~~ governors and mayors to hold back on spending and big businessmen to cut back on expansion plans. As ~~is~~ a kind of after-thought, he has talked about cutting federal spending. If ~~is~~ he and big spenders in Congress would cooperate, Republicans would be only too glad to help make ~~the~~ cuts in non-defense federal spending.

dunno if you want this

Talk about Phoney Unemployment Stat

Johnson-Humphrey Administration trying to delude the people into thinking ~~that the nation is enjoying great~~ the nation is enjoying great peacetime prosperity. It's wartime prosperity, therefore a false prosperity bearing the fruits of inflation, the danger of ~~economic collapse~~ ^{bust after boom.} Johnson boasts of ^{March} ~~3.7~~ drop in unemployment rate to 3.7 per cent, ~~then~~ says Nothing about fact that 266,000 Americans were ~~inducted~~ drafted in past 12 months. Unemployment dropped by 190,000 in past year ~~in~~ among men under 25. During same period, 264,757 men in that age group were inducted into Armed Forces. We have 235,000 men in Vietnam, with prospects number will go to 300,000 or 400,000 or more. ~~By no~~ By no ~~Johnson's prosperity~~ ^{we say we're in a} stretch of imagination can ~~be called~~ peacetime prosperity.

GOP on Way Up, Will be Strong in 90th Congress

1. Johnson may not get GOP Congress ^{Fairley} but close to it.
2. I predict gain of 40 to 50 seats by GOP; some political writers, as many as 80 new Republicans in House. (Again, I'm a conservative, so I stick with the lower figures.
3. Why ~~is~~ GOP on way up, ~~while~~ Democrats slipping badly? Johnson has failed to come to grips with inflation, prefers ~~cutting~~ tax increase to federal non-defense spending cuts. Johnson has failed to deal adequately with ~~the~~ Vietnam, ~~so~~ so war there probably will drag on for years and years.

GOP CAN MAKE BIG '66 COMEBACK

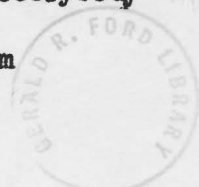
1. ~~But~~ ^{Sh} shouldn't take this for granted, shouldn't rely on automatic snapback. (You can snap back with Stanback, but in politics you don't just take a pill).

2. Must ~~find~~ ^{find} field attractive candidates--and we're doing it.

3. Must raise enough money to run effective campaign and, as you know, we're doing it. Have good product to sell, but ^{as} any businessman knows you have to advertise. ~~to sell even the best products.~~

4. Attractive candidates, well-financed campaign no substitute for work.

5. Republicans can ~~win big gains~~ make solid gains in '66 if everybody marches shoulder-to-shoulder and arm-in-arm to bring the ~~GOP~~ GOP a team victory. Now, ^{trot} ~~out~~ the cheer leaders and let's go.



9
4:38
1:38

CLAUSEN insert

1. This is Booming area

They tell me
a. It's called the "Redwood Empire" —

b. Expanding at rapid rate

2. Can tell by looking at you people that you're sharp, hard-working, good solid Americans. I understand this district has the highest level of education of any in the country.

3. Want you to know Clausen is doing good job for you in Washington.

He's looking out for ~~all~~ everybody in his district on the Redwood National Park Bill (bill to create redwood park in north end of Clausen's district. It's problem for him, what with some people in district being for the park and others against it, but he ~~has~~ has good grasp of the situation, good control over it. He's determined to preserve the redwoods and to preserve the jobs involved, too. I think Congress is going to create this park, so you're lucky you have a man like Clausen in Washington to look after all the interests of the district on this thing.

ED REINECKE insert

1. He scored upset victory in 1964 and he's proved he deserved to win. He's giving you good service. Is one of the hardest-working men in Congress; I can vouch for that.

2. He's on Interior and Insular Affairs Committee--good assignment for a Californian. He's also on Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee--~~is~~ a natural for a fellow who's ~~is~~ a skin diver.

3. I'm glad he gave up skydiving, though. I wouldn't want you to lose him. I need him, too. After all, there are only 140 of us Republicans in the House.

4. I'm pleased that Ed is bringing the federal government to you ~~through~~ through the "Community Days" he held throughout the district last year and through his mobile office. He's a good man, and don't you forget it ~~when~~ when it comes to sending him back to Congress.

1. I agree with Ed that individual initiative should be used to the fullest at the local level. That's basic Republican philosophy. And I understand it's the philosophy of ~~all~~ all good Californians.

2. You people are concerned about the way the White House is controlling the entire ~~leg~~ legislative process in Washington. So am I--most concerned.

3/ That's why Republican Party must regain strength. We must put new life into the two-party system.

4. Must bring the political scales back into balance--must elect more men like Ed Reinecke to Congress Nov. 8.

~~GOP~~
This is just a "wild card."

Johnson Would Be Better Off with GOP Congress *so would the Nation.*
~~Johnson~~

Sounds like he's campaigning for GOP. He talks of cutting spending but liberal Democrats rebuff GOP attempts to cut all ~~spending~~ *appropriation bills* 5 per cent.

Has wished out loud that ~~the~~ Democrats would give him the Vietnam support he gets from Republicans. His party is split over Vietnam, some Democratic senators even arguing at this late date that we should get out. Republicans, in best tradition of GOP, ~~have~~ *are* solidly reflect ~~the~~ American people's determination to halt Communist aggression in ~~this~~ Vietnam and throughout ~~the~~ world.

Another card that didn't "fit" with the others -

DISUNITY IN ADMINISTRATION BREEDS DISUNITY IN NATION

1. Democrats divided; this hurts nation. Cause is "politics as usual" on part of Johnson-Humphrey Administration.

2. Democrats divided; this hurts war effort. Undermines morale of our boys fighting in Vietnam, encourages Communists to believe they will prevail.

3. Republicans united, would give nation sound policies, not politics.

4. Republicans are going on record for economy, cuts in non-~~military~~ military spending.

5. Democrats ~~being forced~~ are going on record for more spending, for business as usual during Vietnam war, more inflation.



California ~~Fat~~ Jokes

I have a friend in San Franciscan who owns a fishing fleet. Everytime he meets a new girl he buys her mink coats, diamonds, expensive perfumes and all kinds of luxuries. When income tax time comes, he puts all these items down as business expense deductions--You know--bait.

I'm glad the grape pickers strike is over. I'd hate to see the White House go back to serving French wines to its guests.



CARDS

SAN DIEGO, CALIF

? Apr. 1966

Congress of the United States

Office of the Minority Leader

House of Representatives

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

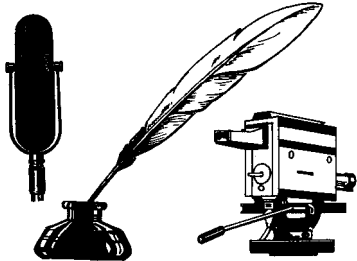
Gerald R. Ford
M.C.

Speech Card

GOP Associates
of San Diego County

Also Clausen &
Reinecke





CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY P.M., APRIL 15, 1966

EXCERPTS OF SPEECH BEFORE REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATES OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY AT SAN DIEGO

Vietnam and inflation are the two biggest issues in the nation today.

Republicans are not making Vietnam an issue. The people are.

I can tell you this: I am firmly convinced that President Johnson's quickie conference with Southvietnamese Premier Ky last February at Honolulu was a bad mistake. I think it is the cause of the current political and civil unrest in Vietnam.

Mr. Johnson stirred up sharp political rivalries in Vietnam by demonstrating all-out support for one individual. Master politician that he is, he should have known better. It was then that the Buddhists began calling Ky "an American puppet."

The current uprisings in Vietnam were touched off when Ky ousted Lt. Gen. Nguyen Chanh Thi from his command at Danang. It is generally agreed Ky would never have dared to purge Thi had the Honolulu conference never taken place.

I hope that out of the present political turmoil in Vietnam will come a government with enough popular support to move forward effectively on the military and socio-economic fronts so that Communist aggression there can be halted.

But there is a distinct possibility the result may be a government which will sue for peace with the Viet Cong and demand that U. S. forces get out. Then the chickens hatched at Honolulu will really come home to roost.

* * *

President Johnson again is talking economy. That's all he has ever done about making any real cuts in government spending--just talk. His kind of economy is the Great Hypocrisy of the Great Society because it's phony.

We recently heard from a candid man in the Johnson-Humphrey Administration--a refreshing turn of events. National Capital Parks Director T. Sutton Jett said in testimony before a House appropriations subcommittee that the savings from Mr. Johnson's lights-out campaign at the White House had been negligible. Lyndon still goes around turning out the lights in the ladies' room at the White House, but everybody's onto him now.

(MORE)

SPEECH EXCERPTS--SAN DIEGO

Turning away from the ridiculous, we learn the Council of State Chambers of Commerce has conservatively estimated that the cost of Great Society programs will skyrocket from \$3.1 billion in 1965 to \$21.5 billion in 1970. That's why House Republicans oppose "small" programs like Rent Supplements that start at \$12 million this fiscal year.

* * *

The American people are losing confidence in the Johnson-Humphrey Administration. This is a natural consequence of what I call the Credibility Canyon--failure of the Administration to let the people know what's happening.

In that vein, we found Undersecretary of State George W. Ball unblinkingly saying on a recent nationwide television program that the civil unrest in Vietnam was not adversely affecting the conduct of the war. The next day, U.S. officials in Saigon acknowledged that politically riled stevedores at the port of Danang had refused to unload bombs there. That contributed to a cutback in U. S. bombing activity.

We also find Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara heatedly denying that the combat readiness of U. S. forces in Europe has diminished.

The truth is that U. S. forces in Europe are at a lower strength level than at any time since before the Berlin crisis in 1961. For the last 18 months we have been withdrawing Army specialists and certain types of war material from Europe because of Vietnam needs.

McNamara can issue all the denials he wants to. Our combat readiness in Europe just isn't what he would have the nation believe.

* * *

Republicans have been backing Democratic administrations since 1961 in this nation's effort to thwart Communist aggression in Vietnam.

This does not mean we cannot offer what we consider to be constructive suggestions concerning overall Vietnam policy. But it does mean we have no intention of second-guessing Mr. Johnson on day-to-day military decisions.

Mr. Johnson should have sole responsibility for day-to-day conduct of the war. He is the elected commander-in-chief of our Armed Forces, acting on advice from the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Of course, he does not always take that advice.

Democrats are divided on Vietnam. This encourages the Communist aggressors to think they can prevail if they just fight long enough. This is damaging to this nation, and the people will not long stand for it. They will turn to a party united on Vietnam policy--the Republican Party.

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