The original documents are located in Box D20, folder "Illinois State Fair, Springfield, IL, August 17, 1966" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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FINDLEY PERCY - Machamera one one of them piers = Johnson & rather than one ILLINOIS STATE FAIR ADDRESS, SPRINGFIELD--AUGUST 17, 1966

THIS IS A FAMOUS STATE FAIR. WE ARE IN THE GREAT FARMING STATE OF HELINOIS IT IS FITTING THAT PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE AGRICULTURE EXPERT OF THE JOHNSON-HUMPHREY ADMINISTRATION -- SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE ORVIL FREEMAN.

MR. FREEMAN IS A GREAT SOCIETY DEMOCRAT. I AM A REPUBLICAN. BUT, I KNOW YOU SHARE THE VIEW THAT HE IS THE MOST PECULIAR SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE WE HAVE HAD FOR A LONG, LONG TIME. I SALUTE HIM AS A TRAIL-BLAZING that a consprantile to heir proteing EXPERIMENTER. AS SOCIAL REVOLUTIONARY, AND AS A POLITICAL PHRASE-MAKER WHO WAS BORN WITH A FOOT IN HIS MOUTH.

SECRETARY FREEMAN IS THE ONLY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

JOHNSON-HUMPHREY-FREEMAN TEAM, HAS INCREASED BEEF IMPORTS
AND DUMPED CCC-STORED GRAINS TO KNOCK DOWN MARKET PRICES.
THIS DEMOCRATIC ADMINISTRATION TRIED TO SCUTTLE THE SCHOOL
MILK AND SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS, AND TO REDUCE EXTENSION
SERVICE PROGRAMS.

THIS IS WHAT OUR FATHERS USED TO CALL "SOME PUNKINS."

BUT IF SECRETARY FREEMAN HAS HURT THE FARMERS AND WOUNDED

THE DEMOCRATS, HE IS TO BE CONGRATULATED ON PROVIDING THE

REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN SLOGAN FOR 1966. ON JULY 28TH, AT A

SECRET DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL HUDDLE AT WHICH HE BRUSHED OFF

THE HOUSEWIVES AND THE FARMERS, HE GAVE THIS SLICK ADVICE

TO THE DESPERATE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES--AND

I QUOTE:

"SLIP, SLIDE AND DUCK ANY QUESTION OF HIGHER CONSUMER PRICES IF YOU POSSIBLY CAN!"

THAT'S ORBITING ORVILLE FOR YOU. RIGHT OUT OF THE HORSE'S MOUTH. "SLIP, SLIDE AND DUCK!" PERHAPS SUCH ADVICE WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE DEMOCRATIC HOPEFULS WERE DODGING BASEBALLS IN A CARNIVAL CONCESSION, BUT CANDIDATES WHO "SLIP, SLIDE AND DUCK!" WON'T SATISFY THE AMERICAN VOTERS IN 1966. IN THE POLITICAL ARENA THIS FALL DEMOCRATS WILL BE DUCKING WHEN THEY SHOULD BE SLIPPING, AND SLIPPING WHEN THEY SHOULD BE SLIDING. THE JOHNSON-HUMPHREY-FREEMAN "RUBBER STAMP" CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES WILL BE DUCK SOUP FOR THE VOTERS AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. We have the OPPORTUNITY to make

THIS THE YEAR OF THE ELEPHANT. REPUBLICANS ARE ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ISSUES, HAVE THE BEST CANDIDATES, REAL PARTY UNITY, AND ORGANIZATION. THE DEMOCRATS ARE SADDLED WITH HIGHER PRICES, HIGHER INTEREST RATES, HIGHER

IT IS A GRIM AND DIFFICULT WAR THAT THEY ARE FIGHTING, IN THE JUNGLES, SWAMPS AND RICE-PADDIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. ALREADY OUR COMBAT LOSSES HAVE RISEN TO OVER 30,000-- INCLUDING MORE THAN 4,000 AMERICANS KILLED IN ACTION.

BUT, WE HAVE THE <u>POWER</u> TO BE SUCCESSFUL ON THE <u>BATTLEFIELD</u>

AND AT THE <u>PEACE TABLE</u>, AND WE SHOULD <u>PRESS MORE VIGOROUSLY</u>

FOR <u>SOLUTIONS</u> ON <u>BOTH FRONTS</u>. I <u>COMMEND CHUCK PERCY</u> FOR

CALLING FOR AN <u>ASIAN PEACE CONFERENCE</u>, WITH THE ASIANS Themselves

TAKING THE LEAD IN SEEKING AN HONORABLE PEACE IN WAR-TORN

VIETNAM. This framework proposal is a Squellican plant for peace.

OUR SOLDIERS ARE PERFORMING BRILLIANTLY IN VIETNAM.
BUT IT IS TRAGIC THAT MORE AND MORE OF OUR YOUNG MEN ARE
BEING SENT TO FIGHT AND PERHAPS TO DIE THERE.

WE ARE TOLD WE CAN NOW EXPECT THERE WILL BE 400,000

EVER BEEN FOR ANY CONSECUTIVE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD SINCE THE BIG DEPRESSION.

HE DIDN'T TELL THEM THAT FARM PRODUCTION COSTS HAVE GONE UP \$4 BILLION SINCE 1960, OR THAT TOTAL FARM DEBT STANDS 60 PER CENT HIGHER THAN FIVE YEARS AGO.

HE DIDN'T TELL THEM THAT JOHNSON-HUMPHREY-FREEMAN INFLATION HAS SO CHEAPENED THE AMERICAN DOLLAR THAT THE \$14 BILLION IN NET FARM INCOME REPORTED FOR 1965 WILL BUY ONLY ABOUT AS MUCH AS THE \$12.8 BILLION FARMERS EARNED IN 1958.

HE DIDN'T TELL THEM THAT FARMERS ARE STILL EARNING ONLY ABOUT 65 PER CENT AS MUCH AS NON-FARMERS. NOW THERE'S SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT. NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD? WHAT A LOT OF BALONEY!

grang .

THAT'S ROBIN HOOD IN REVERSE. HE STOLE FROM THE RICH
TO GIVE TO THE POOR. THE ADMINISTRATION TAKES FROM THE
HAVE-NOTS AND GIVES TO THE HAVES. AND THEN THEY TALK

ABOUT WAGING A WAR ON POVERTY!

WHAT DO WE HAVE TODAY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY? WE'VE GOT THE PARTY OF BIG BUSINESS, THE PARTY OF BIG GOVERNMENT, THE PARTY OF BIG BUREAUCRACY, THE PARTY OF BIG SPENDING, THE PARTY OF BIG LABOR TROUBLES, THE PARTY OF BIG HOME FORECLOSURES, THE PARTY OF BIG HOME FORECLOSURES, THE PARTY OF BIG PROMISES.

RIOTS IN THE STREETS. THE PARTY OF BIG PROMISES.

BIG BUT FAILED TO DELIVER. THAT'S WHY WE ARE IN TROUBLE NOW

FROM SCHOOL KIDS. WHEN THE TREASURY TURNS TO THE BIG
INVESTORS, IT TALKS ANOTHER LANGUAGE. HERE I HOLD---# A PARTICIPATION SALES CERTIFICATE, AN INTEREST IN VARIOUS
MORTGAGE ASSETS THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OWNS. ITS
ISSUANCE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE PARTICIPATION SALES ACT
OF LAST MAY, ANOTHER DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS BLANK CHECK.

ANYONE WHO CAN AFFORD THE \$5,000 MINIMUM CAN BUY ONE

OF THESE CERTIFICATES AND WILL DRAW INTEREST, NOT AT THE

RATE OF, 4.15 PER CENT BUT 5-3/4. THAT OVER 40 PER CENT

MORE THAN THE ADMINISTRATION PAYS TO THE RICH THAN IT PAYS

TO THE GREAT NUMBER OF AMERICANS WHO DON'T HAVE \$5,000 IN

CASH LYING AROUND FOR A SAFE INVESTMENT.

# ADDRESS BY REP, GERALD R. FORD At ILLINOIS STATE FAIR

SPRINGFIELD - AUGUST 17, 1966

This is a famous State Fair. We are in the great farming State of Illinois.

It is fitting that we should pay our respects to the agriculture expert of the

Johnson-Humphrey Administration--Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman.

Mr. Freeman is a Great Society Democrat. I am a Republican. But, I know you share the view that he is the most peculiar Secretary of Agriculture we have had for a long, long time. I salute him as a trail-blazing experimenter, as a social revolutionary, and as a political phrase-maker who was born with a foot in his mouth.

Secretary Freeman is the only Secretary of Agriculture who has ever asked the Department of Defense to cut down on its purchases of beef and pork produced by the American farmer.

He is the only Secretary of Agriculture who has ever publicly expressed pleasure at a drop in farm prices.

He is the Cabinet officer who beamed his approval of an \$8 million ExportImport Bank deal to help Communist Rumania process 300,000 pigs a year with modern
American-made equipment and to sell millions of pounds of Communist pork in
competition with American farmers.

Secretary Freeman has waged an undeclared war on American agriculture which has driven parity prices from an average of 84.5 per cent under Eisenhower to barely 79 per cent this year. He, as the agriculture "boss man" on the Johnson-Humphrey-Freeman team, has increased beef imports and dumped CCC-stored grains to knock down market prices. This Democratic Administration tried to scuttle the school milk and school lunch programs and to reduce extension service programs.

This is what our fathers used to call "some punkins." But if Secretary

Freeman has hurt the farmers and wounded the Democrats, he is to be congratulated on providing the Republican campaign slogan for 1966. On July 28th, at a secret Democratic political huddle at which he brushed off the housewives and the farmers, he gave this slick advice to the desperate Democratic congressional candidates—and I quote:

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were dodging baseballs in a carnival concession. But candidates who "slip, slide and duck!" won't satisfy the American voters in 1966. In the political arena this fall Democrats will be ducking when they should be slipping, and slipping when they should be sliding. The Johnson-Humphrey-Freeman "rubber stamp" Congressional candidates will be duck soup for the voters and the Republican Party.

This is the year of the Elephant. Republicans are on the right side of the issues, have the best candidates, real party unity, and organization. The Democrats are saddled with higher prices, higher interest rates, higher draft calls, higher crime rates. The Great Society is the High Society. Had enough?--Vote Republican!

What is the State of the Union? Not good with a war in Vietnam and NATO in disarray in Europe. At home we see prices skyrocketing to all-time highs, interest rates going out of sight, mortgage money tight and getting tighter, federal spending out of control, crime soaring and violence spreading across the land.

This is the time for leadership. America needs straight-from-the-shoulder answers. Slip, slide and duck will not suffice. Despite all the Johnson-Humphrey fanfare and hoopla, this nation is not getting decisive and effective leadership from the Democrats at a time when it's desperately needed. The "big daddy" Johnson-Democrat attitude will not solve the frankenstein mess which is damaging our prestige and power abroad, and ravaging our people at home. Democrats talk like Pollyanna. The White House blows with an uncertain trumpet, with its credibility at an all-time low.

What are we to believe about Vietnam? There the stakes are high; the consequences are great.

Americans are proud of our men in our armed forces. Many of you here have husbands, fathers, sons and brothers fighting for freedom half-way around the world. We must not, we cannot, we will not let them down. Republicans believe we must forthrightly and steadfastly meet the challenge of Communist terror and aggression in Vietnam, Berlin or elsewhere.

It is a grim and difficult war that they are fighting, in the jungles, swamps and rice-paddies of Southeast Asia. Already our combat losses have risen to over 30,000--including more than 4,000 Americans killed in action.

But we have the power to be successful on the battlefield and at the peace table, and we should press more vigorously for solutions on both fronts. I commend Chuck Percy for calling for an Asian Peace Conference, with the Asians taking the lead in seeking an honorable peace in war-torn Vietnam.

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We are told we can now expect there will be 400,000 of our ground troops in Vietnam by the end of this year. We are also informed it will take 750,000 Americans to end the Vietnam War within five years.

These reports sound utterly fantastic when we recall what President Johnson told the nation just two years ago, when he was seeking election.

"We don't want our American boys to do the fighting for Asian boys," Johnson the <u>campaigner</u> said. "We don't want to get involved in a nation with 700 million people and get tied down in a land war in Asia."

National Republican leaders urged the President in December, 1965, to make more effective use of the superiority we enjoy in air and sea power to end the Vietnam War more quickly and save our manpower.

But the President dilly-dallied and shilly-shallied until  $6\frac{1}{2}$  months later when the polls told him the American people wanted to win in Vietnam and get out.

Only then did the President order destruction of the oil depots near Hanoi and Haiphong. In explaining the action, Defense Secretary McNamara said the bombings would save American and South Vietnamese lives.

Apparently the President thought the oil depot bombings would save lives in July but not in December.

The war in Vietnam is costly both in lives and in dollars. Yet the Johnson Administration persists in a spending-as-usual attitude. While pumping billions into the Vietnam War, the Johnson-Humphrey-Freeman Administration dishes out billions more in non-essential domestic spending. The result--inflation.

Inflation is a big word. But you people know what it means. You find out every time you go into the marketplace and pay more and more for less and less.

Don't let Big Daddy or any other apologist for his Administration tell you you never had it so good. That's a lot of hooey.

Mr. Johnson went out to Nebraska and Iowa to tell the farmers they never had it so good.

He didn't tell them the farmer is caught in a cost-price squeeze. He didn't tell them that makes the average parity ratio over the past five years the lowest it has ever been for any consecutive five-year period since the big depression.

He didn't tell them that farm production costs have gone up \$4 billion since 1960, or that total farm debt stands 60 per cent higher than five years ago.

He didn't tell them that Johnson-Humphrey-Freeman inflation has so cheapened the American dollar that the \$14 billion in net farm income reported for 1965 will buy only about as much as the \$12.8 billion farmers earned in 1958.

He didn't tell them that farmers are still earning only about 65 per cent as much as non-farmers. Now there's something to think about. Never had it so good? What a lot of baloney!

The truth is the Johnson-Humphrey-Freeman Administration has been spending the American people silly. This is the chief reason your dollars are slipping away in line with Freeman's slide-slip-and-duck philosophy.

The Democrats have been drowning this country in red ink for six long years.

You know what the deficit for those six years adds up to? Thirty billion--an average of \$6 billion a year. The last time the federal budget was balanced was in 1960 under a Republican Administration.

President Johnson pretends to be an economizer. I say "pretends" because I've got the figures to back up what I say. Mr. Johnson is planning to spend 47.5 per cent more in fiscal year 1967 than the federal government spent in 1960. Since fiscal 1965, federal spending is up 17 per cent. That's the great economy record compiled during Mr. Johnson's time in office.

It is this kind of reckless spending, the doling out of dollars by the Johnson-Humphrey-Freeman Administration and its blank-check Democratic Congress, which is the prime cause of inflation.

In their 1960 platform the Democrats promised to maintain price stability. Have they kept this promise?

In 1960 the Democrats promised to place farmers on the same economic level as automobile workers and the teamsters. What happened to that promise? Like all the others, it was for the Democrats to get in on, not to deliver on.

I ask you. Why shouldn't a farmer get as much for a 400-hour month as the driver of a city milk delivery truck gets for a 30-hour week?

And I ask you. Why does the Administration and its captive Democrat Congress act as though there is no problem under the sun which can't be cured by spending billions of taxpayer dollars?

Why, in short, does the Administration pretend that we can fight an all-out war in Vietnam and still pay for any and every sociological brainstorm hatched by the kept economists of the Great Society?

We're bogged down in Vietnam. We're in a mess with inflation. And now we're getting kicked around by high interest rates.

Do you know that the Democrats in their 1960 platform had the gall to attack the Eisenhower Administration as a high-interest administration?

Well, now, after barely five years of Democratic control, interest rates in this country have hit a 30-year high--that's right, a 30-year high--and they're still going up.

This may be news to you, but the Administration can't even be honest about interest rates, much less keep them from going sky-high.

Here in my hand I hold a United States Savings Bond. My children and your children are buying these bonds. So are farmers and industrial workers, people who are demonstrating their faith in America. The U.S. Treasury pays them 4.15 per cent interest for the use of their money.

But that's only when it comes to taking candy-money from school kids. When the Treasury turns to the big investors, it talks another language. Here I hold a Participation Sales Certificate, an interest in various mortgage assets that the federal government owns. Its issuance was authorized by the Participation Sales Act of last May, another Democratic Congress blank check.

Anyone who can afford the \$5,000 minimum can buy one of these certificates and will draw interest not at the rate of 4.15 per cent but 5-3/4. That's over 40 per cent more that the Administration pays to the rich than it pays to the great number of Americans who don't have \$5,000 in cash lying around for a safe investment.

That's Robin Hood in reverse. He stole from the rich to give to the poor.

The Administration takes from the have-nots and gives to the haves. And then they talk about waging a war on poverty!

What do we have today in the Democratic Party? We've got the Party of Big Business, the Party of Big Government, the Party of Big Bureaucracy, the Party of Big Spending, the Party of Big Deficits, the Party of Big Cost of Living, the Party of Big Labor Troubles, the Party of Big Home Foreclosures, the Party of Big Scandals, the Party with Big Riots in the Streets, the Party of Big Promises.

Riots in the Streets. The Democratic Party promised big but failed to deliver.

That's why we are in trouble now.

There is an atmosphere of lawlessness in this country. It springs from the attitude that Americans should only obey the laws that please them. It stems from the feeling that if you've got more than I have, I can take from you whatever I want. It's the old attitude of the-world-owes-me-a-living gone wild.

You read about the riots, the arson, and the looting in our great cities and you wonder if America has gone mad. This kind of disregard for law and order breeds anarchy.

I have said it before and I say it again. When high-ranking public figures like Vice President Humphrey talk about leading a riot themselves, they are encouraging a defiance of the law which is inexcusable in a civilized society. Is this a Great Society?

Some of our big cities are rapidly reverting to the jungle. Lawless elements are threatening to make guerrilla warfare with the police a familiar pattern of American life.

How long are we going to abdicate law and order--the backbone of any civilization--in favor of a soft social theory that the man who heaves a brick through your window or tosses a fire bomb into your car or snipes at firemen is simply the misunderstood and underprivileged product of a broken home?

Vietnam. Inflation. High interest. Violence. These are the issues of 1966. We did not create them. They are simply there. We would rather the Administration had not let them develop.

But that is where the two-party system comes in.

Winston Churchill once said that democracy had many and serious faults but was better than any other system of government man had devised.

Democracy in America depends on two-party politics. One-party government leads straight to tyranny. A vigorous two-party system is the simplest way of bringing about necessary changes in our government without wrecking the country or resorting to revolution.

Today we do not have two strong, nearly equal-in-strength political parties.

Lopsided government, if allowed to continue, leads only to disaster.

Competition is the secret of American economic freedom and social progress.

Competition between the two major political parties has been good for America.

In 1966 this competition will be reestablished. The Democrats' stranglehold will be broken at the polls in November.

The easiest and quickest way for you to clean up Vietnam, stop inflation, bring down interest rates, and protect the lives, rights and property of us all-including all minorities--is to vote Republicans in and Democrats out. It's just as simple as that. It's not a matter of intrigue in government, or of contributing \$10,000 to the President's Club, or lobbying on Capitol Hill.

Often when I ponder the great land that is America, I think of that day in Philadelphia when Benjamin Franklin left the Constitutional Convention.

"Which have you given us," a man asked him, "a monarchy or a republic?"

"A Republic," Franklin answered, "if you can keep it."

That republic has endured for 177 years...because in every age there have been Americans who gave of their time, of their treasure, and of their faith to keep it.

It is for us, the living, to rededicate ourselves to that high purpose.

And it is my deep conviction that you--all of you--will pass on the torch of freedom to your children because you dare stand up and be counted for America. Thank you and God bless you all.

Re: 1966 REP. CAMPAIGN ISSUES

## FOR RELEASE IN WEDNESDAY P.M. s--AUGUST 17, 1966

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Anyone who can afford the \$5,000 minimum can buy one of these certificates and will draw interest not at the rate of 4.15 per cent but 5-3/4. That's over 40 per cent more that the Administration pays to the rich than it pays to the great number of Americans who don't have \$5,000 in cash lying around for a safe investment.

That's Robin Hood in reverse. He stole from the rich to give to the poor.

The Administration takes from the have-nots and gives to the haves. And then they talk about waging a war on poverty!

What do we have today in the Democratic Party? We've got the Party of Big Business, the Party of Big Government, the Party of Big Bureaucracy, the Party of Big Spending, the Party of Big Deficits, the Party of Big Cost of Living, the Party of Big Labor Troubles, the Party of Big Home Foreclosures, the Party of Big Scandals, the Party with Big Riots in the Streets, the Party of Big Promises.

Riots in the Streets. The Democratic Party promised big but failed to deliver.

That's why we are in trouble now.

There is an atmosphere of lawlessness in this country. It springs from the attitude that Americans should only obey the laws that please them. It stems from the feeling that if you've got more than I have, I can take from you whatever I want. It's the old attitude of the-world-owes-me-a-living gone wild.

You read about the riots, the arson, and the looting in our great cities and you wonder if America has gone mad. This kind of disregard for law and order breeds anarchy.

I have said it before and I say it again. When high-ranking public figures like Vice President Humphrey talk about leading a riot themselves, they are encouraging a defiance of the law which is inexcusable in a civilized society. Is this a Great Society?

Some of our big cities are rapidly reverting to the jungle. Lawless elements are threatening to make guerrilla warfare with the police a familiar pattern of American life.

How long are we going to abdicate law and order--the backbone of any civilization--in favor of a soft social theory that the man who heaves a brick through your window or tosses a fire bomb into your car or snipes at firemen is simply the misunderstood and underprivileged product of a broken home?

Vietnam. Inflation. High interest. Violence. These are the issues of 1966. We did not create them. They are simply there. We would rather the Administration had not let them develop.

But that is where the two-party system comes in.

Winston Churchill once said that democracy had many and serious faults but was better than any other system of government man had devised.

Democracy in America depends on two-party politics. One-party government leads straight to tyranny. A vigorous two-party system is the simplest way of bringing about necessary changes in our government without wrecking the country or resorting to revolution.

Today we do not have two strong, nearly equal-in-strength political parties.

Lopsided government, if allowed to continue, leads only to disaster.

Competition is the secret of American economic freedom and social progress.

Competition between the two major political parties has been good for America.

In 1966 this competition will be reestablished. The Democrats' stranglehold will be broken at the polls in November.

The easiest and quickest way for you to clean up Vietnam, stop inflation, bring down interest rates, and protect the lives, rights and property of us all-including all minorities--is to vote Republicans in and Democrats out. It's just as simple as that. It's not a matter of intrigue in government, or of contributing \$10,000 to the President's Club, or lobbying on Capitol Hill.

Often when I ponder the great land that is America, I think of that day in Philadelphia when Benjamin Franklin left the Constitutional Convention.

"Which have you given us," a man asked him, "a monarchy or a republic?"

"A Republic," Franklin answered, "if you can keep it."

That republic has endured for 177 years...because in every age there have been Americans who gave of their time, of their treasure, and of their faith to keep it.

It is for us, the living, to rededicate ourselves to that high purpose.

And it is my deep conviction that you--all of you--will pass on the torch of freedom to your children because you dare stand up and be counted for America. Thank you and God bless you all.