

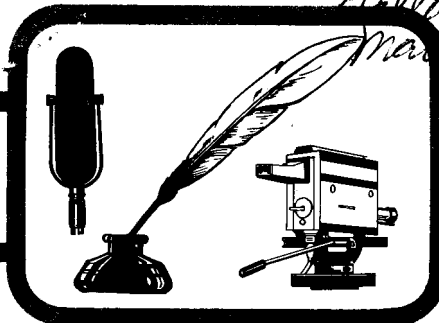
The original documents are located in Box D33, folder “Erie Area Republican League Rally, Sandusky, OH, October 7, 1972” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M. SATURDAY--
October 7, 1972

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford at an Erie Area Republican League Rally at Sandusky, Ohio.

The credibility gap which has been plaguing George McGovern has become a canyon--because Sargent Shriver has widened and deepened it.

First, McGovern himself wielded the shovel, beginning with the Tom Eagleton affair. Remember Tom? George said he supported Tom 1000 per cent--and then he dumped him.

Then there was the day McGovern told reporters he had "no plans to meet with Mayor Daley" at the very moment that he was on his way to a closed-door meeting with the mayor at Daley's suite in the Hotel Roosevelt in New Orleans during a gathering of the U. S. Conference of Mayors.

And we mustn't forget the famous mission to Paris of McGovern aide Pierre Salinger. Salinger, you'll remember, asked the North Vietnamese--on McGovern's behalf--for the release of U. S. war prisoners. The plea was rejected. McGovern at first denied any knowledge of the Salinger mission and said he had given him "no instructions whatsoever." About two hours later, McGovern issued a three-paragraph statement admitting that Salinger had met with North Vietnamese representatives at his direction.

Then there is the case of the thousand-dollar handout--the famous McGovern plan to give every man, woman and child in the United States a thousand dollars apiece. When McGovern saw this crazy scheme boomerang in a clash with public opinion, he backed away from it. And this is where Sargent Shriver comes in. Shriver insisted McGovern never made such a proposal. Yet the Jan. 19, 1972, Congressional Record contains a statement by McGovern proposing "that every man, woman and child receive from the Federal Government an annual payment." McGovern went on to say that "a payment of almost \$1,000 per person would be required."

Now comes Sargent Shriver to claim that George McGovern never advocated a general amnesty for Americans who have fled the country to avoid military service. McGovern, Shriver says, has never embraced a "blanket amnesty" for anyone. As Shriver tells it, all McGovern wants to do is to "study the cases of people who refuse to fight and give a presidential pardon where it's deserved." "That's all he's ever said," according to Shriver.

(more)

The facts are that George McGovern flatly stated on Sept. 25, 1971, in a speech at the Los Angeles Convention Center that he would "declare a general amnesty for everyone" who went to prison or fled the country to avoid military service. The only exception he made was that he would insist on case-by-case consideration for deserters. He made similar statements in an interview with "The Capital Times" of Madison, Wis., on Jan. 24, 1972.

So much for George McGovern's credibility--and Sargent Shriver's.

Yet McGovern and Shriver have the gall to attack Nixon Administration economic policy--a policy which has cut inflation in half and has generated 2,600,000 new jobs in the past 12 months and has pushed employment to a record high of nearly 82 million.

It is ironic that McGovern would attack Richard Nixon's record on living costs when his own so-called anti-inflation program is an invitation to a new round of disastrous inflation.

Again helping to widen the credibility gap into a canyon, McGovern at first promised he would end wage-and-price controls and return to a free-market economy but now he calls for wage-price guidelines.

McGovern would turn to the discredited wage-price guidelines of the 60's to solve the economic problems of the '70s. He rejects evidence which clearly shows that the Kennedy-Johnson wage-price program was a miserable failure. He ignores the fact that it was the Walter Heller-inspired guidelines which gave us the skyrocketing inflation of the latter 60's.

Let's make it known that a vote for McGovern is a vote for runaway inflation.

In attacking the Administration on its economic policy, McGovern has opened ever wider the credibility gap of his promises versus his performance. He changes positions as easily as a chameleon changes colors.

Americans aren't buying this kind of irresponsible clap-trap. They know McGovern means misgovernment--and they want no part of it.

Americans on Nov. 7 will stick with Richard Nixon because he is steering a steady course which means continued progress for the Nation.

The voters want prosperity based on sound economic policies, not a phony prosperity tied to make-work projects bought with hard-earned tax dollars.

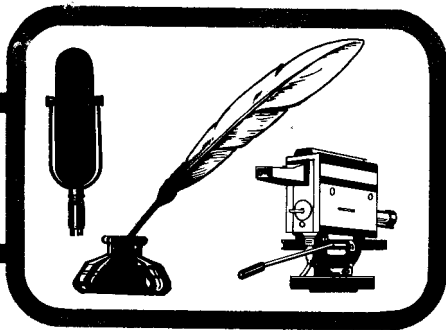
They want a President who will hold down Federal spending and hold the line on taxes, not one who would wildly expand Federal outlays and double the average citizen's tax bill.

They want a President they can be proud of. That's what they've got--and they're going to keep him.

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