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(Gergen)

Speech Ideas for Florida Trip

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

My Presidency is devoted to one ideal: the ideal of  
freedom.

I want all Americans to enjoy freedom from inflation and  
unemployment.

I want all Americans to enjoy freedom from oppressive  
government.

And I want all Americans to enjoy freedom from the fear  
of war.

To achieve these goals, we must be a tough and disciplined  
people. We must be tough in combatting the disease of inflation.  
We must be tough in resisting those who would have the govern-  
ment try to spend our way to prosperity. And we must be tough  
in our relations with other nations who threaten our freedoms.

These are my commitments as your President.

\* \* \*

Our foreign policy must be like a mighty oak. It may sway in the breeze as the winds of change sweep across the world. But it must never bend or break on issues of principle. It must always stand tall and straight for America.

And it will as long as it is firmly rooted in strength -- the strength of the mightiest military force on the earth. As long as I am President, we will always maintain that strength.

\* \* \*

Members of the Congress always seem to ask why I want the biggest defense budget in our history. The answer is simple: for several years, U.S. spending on defense has been on a downward curve, while Soviet spending on defense has been on an upward curve. On day, unless we change our ways, those curves are going to cross and then we're going to be on the bottom looking up. I never want to see the day when the Soviet Union has the upper hand over the United States.

\* \* \*

I am sick and tired of those who say we must apologize  
for America. America needs no apologies. We are the single  
strongest force for peace anywhere in the world, and as long  
as I am President, we shall remain that way.

\* \* \*

Theodore Roosevelt used to say: Walk softly and carry a  
big stick.

Our stick is big enough today, but I think it's time we  
started walking loud enough so that people know we mean business.

\* \* \*

Right outside my office in the White House hangs a painting  
showing the men of 1776 signing the Declaration of Independence.  
Many of the faces were left blank. I often  
asked why. Why is the painting unfinished?

The answer, I think is this: because the work of the  
founding fathers is still unfinished.

Each of us today is really a founder of a new America.  
It is what we do in our daily lives that continues and perfects

the great work of the American Revolution.

\* \* \*

I ask for your votes not because I am already the incumbent.

Not because I am dependable. And not even because of Betty.

I ask for your votes because I believe I am the best  
candidate for the job that needs to be done in the next four  
years:

- the job of restoring the vitality of our economy;
- the job of rebuilding America's position in the world;
- and the job of giving a new birth to freedom and trust  
among Americans.

We have already started on these great tasks. Now I want  
a chance to finish it up.

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