

The original documents are located in Box B82, folder “Senior Citizens (1)” of the President Ford Committee Campaign Records at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America her copyrights in all of her husband’s unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

THE ELDERLY

The President has pledged "...to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation".

High on the list of the President's priorities are the income and health security for older Americans:

-- In his 1976 State of the Union Address, the President proposed that Social Security benefits be expanded by the full cost-of-living increase. This benefit became effective on July 1 of this year.

-- To protect the integrity of the Social Security Trust Fund -- a fund that is being rapidly depleted -- the President in his 1976 State of the Union Address also proposed a small increase in both employer and employee social security taxes. This increase would become effective January 1, 1977 and would cost workers a maximum of \$1 a week.

-- As noted earlier, the President has also proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the elderly people must pay for medical and physicians' fees each year.

-- In November 1975, the President signed Amendments to the Older Americans Act that is intended to deliver coordinated, comprehensive services and meals to the elderly at the community level and to enable older persons to live independent lives in their own homes.



THE ELDERLY

The President has pledged "...to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation".

High on the list of the President's priorities are the income and health security for older Americans:

-- In his 1976 State of the Union Address, the President proposed that Social Security benefits be expanded by the full cost-of-living increase. This benefit became effective on July 1 of this year.

-- To protect the integrity of the Social Security Trust Fund -- a fund that is being rapidly depleted -- the President in his 1976 State of the Union Address also proposed a small increase in both employer and employee social security taxes. This increase would become effective January 1, 1977 and would cost workers a maximum of \$1 a week.

-- As noted earlier, the President has also proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the elderly people must pay for medical and physicians' fees each year.

-- In November 1975, the President signed Amendments to the Older Americans Act that is intended to deliver coordinated, comprehensive services and meals to the elderly at the community level and to enable older persons to live independent lives in their own homes.



Older Am for Ford

FILE

825-C Balmoral Court
Lakewood, N.J. 08701

Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger
Health, Education and Welfare
330 Independence Avenue S.W.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

President Ford states in AARP News Bulletin
"Maintaining the integrity of the Social Security system is a
vital obligation-----".

Evidently your department is not quite in
agreement with this statement where it concerns Medicare.

Until August of 1976, the rebate of paid
medical bills were sent to us not less than four weeks from
the date of mailing. These last several months, however,
the payments are delayed over 12 weeks.

These delays also effect private insurance
carried, since they request a copy of the "Explanation of
Benefits" to accompany the claim.

If integrity really extends to the older
and often poorer population, these delays cause hardships.
Naturally, the doctors do not care to accept assignments.

I have asked others for their opinion on
the subject. The consensus of opinion seems to be that this
will not be taken care of unless we have a new administration.

Please let us know, either on newscasts
or in newspapers how and when this can be corrected. At the
moment, it is a VOTE-LOSER FOR FORD.

Yours very truly,

Helen Schickler

(Mrs.) Helen Schickler

PS Private Insurance companies process claims in 2-3 weeks.

cc President Gerald R. Ford



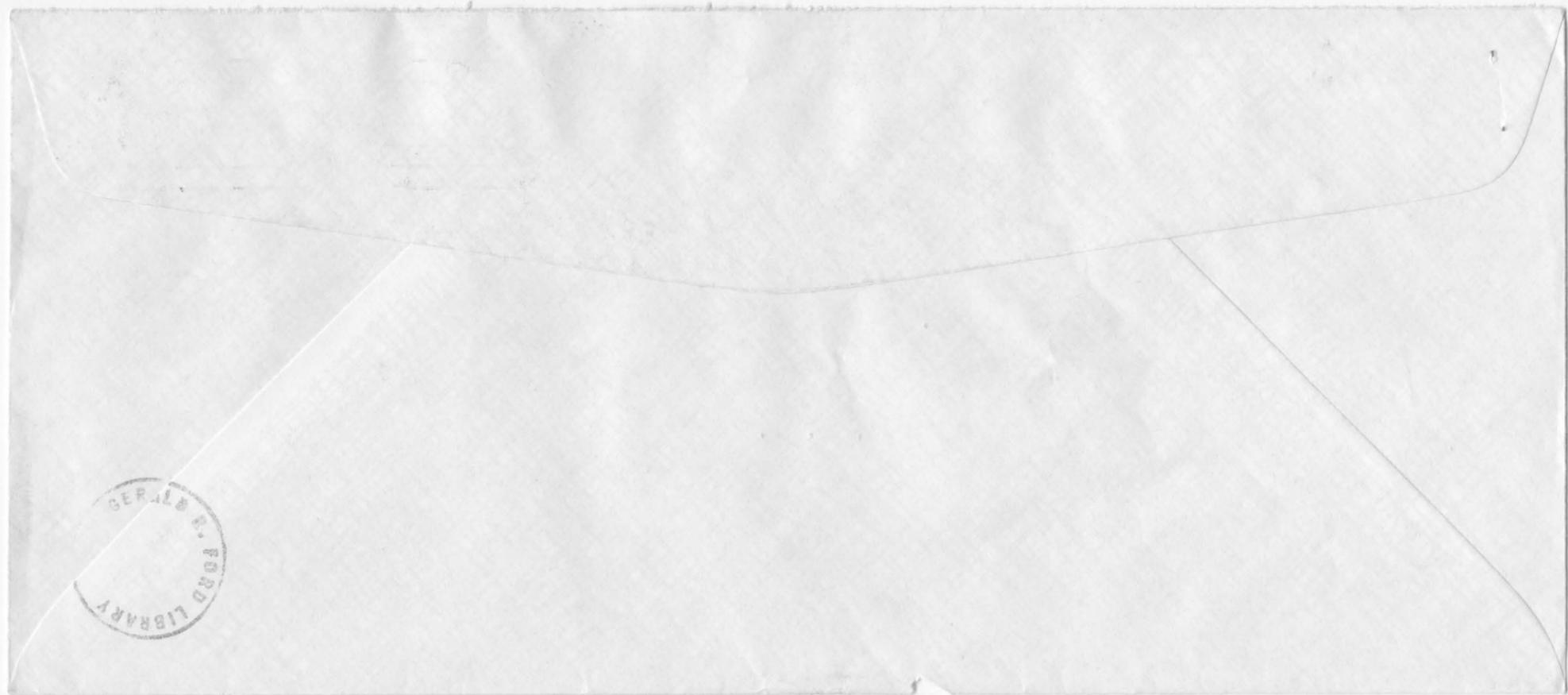
825-C Balmorsl Ct
Lakewood N J 08701



President Gerald R. Ford

The White House Election Committee

Washington, D. C.



GERALD R. FORD
LIBRARY

Sen. Citizens

October 14, 1976

Mr. Thomas Turrell
324 ½ E. Broadway
Anaheim, California 92805

Dear Mr. Turrell,

Thank you for your letter expressing support for President Ford. Letters from individuals like yourself keep us in touch with the concerns of Americans everywhere.

President Ford has proposed several actions to help the elderly. He has pledged "... to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contribution that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation".

The President has proposed several pieces of legislation on social security and health insurance. In his State of the Union Address, he proposed a small increase in both employer and employee social security taxes. This increase would become effective January 1, 1977 and would cost the workers a maximum of \$1 a week. He has also proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the elderly people must pay for medical and physicians fees each year.

Thank you for your letter and we hope this explanation gives you a better understanding on the President's policies on the elderly. He has not ignored them, but has only tried to help them. We hope your support continues and that the President can count on your vote in November.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN:br



I'm life
a long re-
publican who
that begins
to wander
senior citizens
general

374 1/2 E. Broadway
Anthem, Pa. 12805
October 5, 1976

The Republican National Campaign
Headquarters

1878 L. St. N.W., Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20036

Gentlemen:

Jimmy Carter has spoken
of the plight of the old peo-
ple in this country, as being
a disgrace, if I remember
correctly, and I would have
to agree ^{with} that! Furthermore,
I think the social security
system is so full of inequi-
ties (injustices) that "it" is a large
measure of this disgrace:

Listen; old people can't ob-
tain "hearing aids" so they can
hear the television, among other
things, without blasting everyone
else out of the neighborhood.



-2-
Why? I have asked, over
and over; and I get such
answers as: "that's the book!"
or, "that's the law!" — just as
if, "that settles it!"

But does that settle such
a "human" question as this is?

Again: dentures, if they hap-
pen to be "partial" are not
replaced, even by the state,
when broken. I have letters to
prove that — letters telling me,
very positively, that they could
not replace my upper broken,
and worn so badly that the weld
will not hold for eating purposes.

I would like to ask why,
old people cannot have these
dramatic needs? needs that
if not supplied can result
in a health problem — a haz-
ard to health.

Now, in view of all of this;



just about a week ago it was reported that President Ford had decided that people on medicare would now have to pay a larger hunk on their medicare. I don't, for the life of me, understand this! especially with prices sky-rocketing out of sight, where on earth would they get the money to pay it? WHY? WHY? for goodness sake, such deprivation?

I suppose they will say, in Washington, that America is just too poor, to feed, and supply the other necessities of life to old people, who can't help themselves. But it seems that we have no problem in subsidizing the world. Does charity begin at home? I wonder. I'm puzzled.

Sincerely,
Thomas F Terrell

Comments: Senior Citizens ✓

October 14, 1976

Mr. Harley N. Cole
5538 Ranchita Avenue
Van Nuys, California 91401

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thank you very much for your recent letter. We at the President Ford Committee certainly appreciate your efforts for the President's campaign in working with Senior Citizens. California is an important state for the President and the support of Senior Citizens could go a long way in guaranteeing victory.

President Ford's concern for the elderly has been evident since the early days of his administration. He has signed a \$22.8 billion anti-recession tax cut bill that included payment of \$50 to each of some 34 million individuals receiving Social Security, Railroad Retirement and Supplemental Income benefits. Families caring for elderly persons benefitted by a liberalization of tax deduction rules. The President has also signed the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 which, among other things, provides subsidized housing for low-income renters and authorizes direct, low-interest loans for housing for the elderly.

The President has also strongly supported the concept of the Older Americans Act. Less than a year ago he signed into law amendments to the Older Americans Act authorizing \$272 million for new services and goals - almost seven times more than available three years earlier.

More recently, President Ford has made several new proposals which include a cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits, and a program to alleviate the burden of catastrophic illness.

These accomplishments and innovative proposals have earned the respect of senior citizens throughout the country. We hope that with your assistance this record can be publicized to the senior citizens of California. I urge



-2-

you to contact Dave Liggett, the executive director of the President's campaign in California, and discuss ways of spreading this information to the senior citizens of California. Mr. Liggett can be reached by writing him at 5959 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, Cal. 90045.

Thanks again for your support. It's great to know that you are working with us and that the President can count on your vote on November 2nd.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN/mb



Comments - senior citizens

Sept 26-1976

Mr. President - HARLEY N. COLE

Many of us are working hard for your well deserved reelection.

I attended a Senior Citizen's meeting last week since they are seeking a legislative representative & that I might be interested, but what impressed me was how angry & determined they are to eliminate all or any politicians involved in the recent overburdening them with excessive increases in property taxes thru fictitious home evaluation, throwing out of balance their plans for a relaxed retirement.

Carters was coached by an L.A. County Supervisor who had attended several citizen meetings where he was threatened with recall, he successfully impressed candidate Carter that this tax on residences could be exploited & now Carter is certainly successfully capitalizing thru D.V. & newspapers.

There are 55,000,000 seniors and they vote, plus those who have reached 65 & are wondering

SCOL CORP.
SHERMAN OAKS
CALIFORNIA



HARLEY N. COLE

What will happen to their plans
retirement @ 62 or 65 yrs &
another plus their sons & daughters
who don't want to worry about
their parents welfare

I'm perhaps more familiar
with this broad & important
picture that most, but above
all I am able to bring the
entire analysis to you & your
campaign people, so you can
make the most useful & pro-
fund announcement for serious
ever used or presented during
a Presidential Campaign. If you
need me I'll meet with you or
your Campaign Mgrs wherever
at my own expense

Respectfully yours
Harley N. Cole
5538 Ranchito Ave
Van Nuys
91401 69



SCOL CORP.
SHERMAN OAKS
CALIFORNIA

213-787-4663

Senior Citizens:

General

✓

October 13, 1976

Mr. David L. Lloyd, Jr.
University of Pennsylvania
Law School
Box #2083
3440 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19174

Dear Mr. Lloyd:

Thank you for your letter of October 6, and your interesting ideas concerning the elderly. Mr. Baker has read your correspondence and has asked me to respond.

You are quite correct when you say that a conservative philosophy need not be merely negativist in scope. As much as being against something, it represents a positive assertion which provides the basis of its popular appeal.

President Ford has been confronted with an overwhelmingly Democratic Congress and thus has had to restrain the bedlam which they have sought to impose. Conversely, the Democratic controlled Congress has retarded those Presidential initiatives which are contrary to the majority viewpoints.

Your ideas are very helpful in providing examples of alternatives to existing practices. I am forwarding a copy of your memorandum to our Older Americans Desk so that they may benefit from your suggestions.

Thank you once again for your interest and concern. With your help and support, President Ford will be elected President on November 2.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence



BN:TS

*Senior Citizens
General.*

Box #2083 - University of
Pennsylvania Law School
3440 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19174
October 6, 1976

Mr. James A. Baker III
President Ford Committee
1828 L Street, N.W.
Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20036

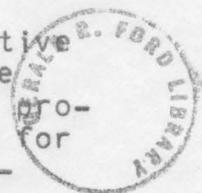
Dear Mr. Baker:

Thank you for your response (per Ms. Barbara Norris) to my letter of September 14, 1976. I have been in touch with the Committee's Philadelphia office and have worked the telephone banks and signed on for election day activities.

My first note made the concededly vague suggestion that President Ford should come forth with "creative initiatives". While Ms. Norris pointed out that the President has made some initiatives which have been stalled by Congress, with the exception of the graduated mortgage plan, the proposals have been less than innovative. Even the mortgage plan is regrettably belated in that I understand the President has had the authority to implement it for nearly two years. I still think the impression is emerging that the President may want to do less of the same old things, but the same old things nonetheless.

I am simply not persuaded that conservatism need be confined to holding the line against Democratic spending excesses. Rather, the Republican Party must come forward with alternatives to the very real problems in America. I use the term "must" in both its moral imperative sense and also in its practical political one. Creative conservatism, properly presented, can be a winning approach. As you know, in the final analysis, most people vote the way their families have voted for generations. Only a strong affirmative reason will alter that. Since the Republicans are in a substantial minority, we have the necessity of coming forward with these affirmative reasons to break the traditional voting patterns. This cannot be done by broad image strategies, but by careful political market segmentation and a program specifically geared to these market components. The Democrats have realized this for years.

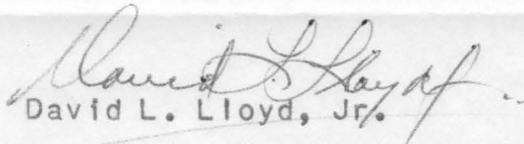
The enclosed memorandum is a brief, but specific, "creative initiative" which targets on a market segment and has the emotional impact to shift voting patterns. Happily, the proposal not only has strong vote-getting impact, but calls for a real change with meaningful results for people who desperately need some nonexploitive attention: the elderly.



Finally, I want to emphasize that my comments are not intended to be critical of your job, which I think has been splendid, indeed, miraculous. Furthermore, I fully recognize the limitations I have in trying to evaluate the national mood from an apartment in West Philadelphia. On the other hand, it was a pipe dream in Plains, Georgia, which has put us in the hole we are in today. Perhaps the Washington vantage point is not so exceptionally advantageous after all. Thus, while I acknowledge my limits, I do not care to sell these ideas short. I earnestly hope you catch the distinction.

Best of luck; I hope I have not made a pest of myself.

Sincerely,


David L. Lloyd, Jr.

Enclosures



MEMORANDUM

TO: President Ford Committee

FROM: David L. Lloyd

DATE: October 6, 1976

RE: Proposed position on "means test" for elderly Americans

BACKGROUND -

There are approximately 23-million elderly Americans. Of this number, I understand that more than 9-million turn out to vote in Presidential elections. A recent poll disclosed that in the current Presidential race, Mr. Carter leads the President among these voters by a margin of roughly 60% to 30%, a ratio sharply out of line with the nation taken as a whole.

In addition, the problems confronting the older American directly touch friends and relatives who are not yet themselves elderly. The "senior citizen" bloc must include those in this category who are politicized by the issues concerning the elderly. The total electoral clout of this bloc is therefore considerable.

In recent years, the senior citizens have recognized this potential political influence and have set out to organize themselves. They have made significant strides at all levels of government, at least in being recognized. Sadly, most politicians have given them lip service to exploit their vote potential, but have delivered little. The title of a recent book on aging says it all: Everybody's Studying Us.

The most powerful and political senior citizen organization is the National Council of Senior Citizens, located at 1511 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20005. The President of the National Council is Nelson H. Cruikshank who served as director of the AFL-CIO Social Security Department from 1955 until his retirement in 1965. Following his retirement, Mr. Cruikshank taught at Michigan State University, Pennsylvania State University and the University of Michigan. He has become a veritable folk hero among the elderly.

Mr. Cruikshank has taken a leave of absence from the Presidency of the National Council to serve as co-chairperson of the Carter-Mondale Senior Citizens Committee.

The foregoing makes clear the unmistakable conclusion that Mr. Carter has a distinct advantage over the President among older Americans and those concerned with problems of aging - a very sizable and political group. This group could make the difference in a close election. In the key state of Pennsylvania, for example, there are many politically active and aware senior citizens.

If the President could take a clear and meaningful stand on an issue of importance to these people, he could materially improve his chances to be elected. The so-called "means test" presents precisely this issue.

MEANS TEST

Title XX of the Social Security Act authorizes a program to build and operate senior citizens facilities. These centers provide a place for the elderly to meet, play cards and generally reduce the loneliness which plagues them. See, "We Built You America!", The Sunday Bulletin (Philadelphia), September 26, 1976, p. 1 (attached).

The Federal regulations governing the operation of these centers require that a means test be administered to all citizens desiring to use a facility. While the Federal standards are satisfied by a mere declaration of eligibility, many states insist on more elaborate examinations. Some of these, Pennsylvania, for instance, force the elderly citizen to be subjected to the means test every six months.

The test is ostensibly designed to screen out those older Americans who are too well-to-do to qualify for the program. It is indeed curious that a program aimed at combating loneliness has an income criterion for eligibility. Be that as it may, it is estimated by some that as many as 80% to 90% of all the elderly would pass the means test anyway. It turns out that the cost of administering the test is greater than the savings created by eliminating the "ineligibles".

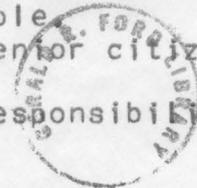
For example, the cost to administer the means test twice a year in Pennsylvania is \$5-million, yet it would only cost about \$1-million to simply permit the "ineligibles" to use the centers. This figure is derived from testimony given March 8, 1976, before the Senate Subcommittee on Public Assistance by Mr. Daniel Schulter, Special Assistant for Aging to Governor Milton Shapp. Mr. Schulter cites the example of Snyder County, Pennsylvania, where the means test cost \$4840 to administer while servicing all the "ineligibles" would have cost but \$900. Obviously not all the ineligible would, in fact, use the center so the disparity would be even greater. The cost of the means test was over 50% of the total governmental cost of \$9334 in Snyder County.

By far the bigger cost, however, is the humiliation these people go through. The tests seek personal information, sometimes going far beyond income statistics. Frequently these lonely people opt to live with their loneliness rather than suffer the ordeal. See, The Sunday Bulletin, *supra*. The data sought appears to be for sociological studies and is not required by Federal regulations. The regulations permit such privacy invasions, however.

The National Council and other local and statewide aged organizations are very much up in arms about the means test and seek its elimination. The issue is emotional.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The President should announce his intention to abolish the means test immediately or as soon as possible.
2. The announcement should be made at a senior citizen center.
3. The point should be made that fiscal responsibility and



compassion for human costs are not incompatible.

PROBLEMS

The President is sure to be viewed as a johnny-come-lately to the cause of the elderly. Perhaps this is too little too late. His record on Social Security is not a good one in the eyes of the elderly. The Catastrophic Health Program he proposed to Congress imposes tremendous costs on the very group that it should be helping.

The Republican platform is not much better. The section on Older Americans is sufficiently vacuous that Mr. Carter might be content to run with it.

SUMMARY

In spite of the problems, the proposal to get rid of the means test appears to be an issue which pleases all sides. Naturally, the elderly citizen who no longer has to face the personal ordeal of the test is given some welcome relief. Those senior citizens who had been deterred from using the centers would feel more welcome. Those aged who would not have qualified under the means test but who are suffering from loneliness would have a place to go to make friends. On the other hand, the expanding scope of the bureaucracy would be cut back somewhat with a considerable saving of tax dollars.

Here, in an area of great political potential, in an area where Mr. Carter has the lead but primarily through default, is an opportunity to make some political hay while doing an awful lot of real good.





The Elderly American: Stranger in a Strange Land

'We Built You, America!'

By **NANCY GREENBERG**
Of the Bulletin Staff

Miss Margaret Jane Ryan, a 70-year-old retired English teacher living in Philadelphia, is the sort of woman who goes years without getting upset over anything more controversial than poor grammar. But one day this summer she was upset and shouting with uncharacteristic fervor:

"Regardless of income, we deserve fun! We should be allowed to be united in our senior centers as the American states are united . . . But more than this, WE WANT FUN! WE DESERVE FUN! WE WANT FUN!"

Miss Margaret Jane Ryan was not the only one angry. Or the only one shouting at members of the State Commission on Aging during a hearing this summer on the

Please Turn to Page 4

There are 228,000 people over the age of 65 in Philadelphia alone, and perhaps again as many in the city's New Jersey and Pennsylvania suburbs.

Reporter Nancy Greenberg spent 10 weeks talking with hundreds of these elderly Americans and officials of agencies serving them.

In this (and two related articles appearing on Page 6 of today's Focus Section) she begins her story of what it is like to be "old" in contemporary America.

The series will continue in Focus tomorrow.



THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1976

Choice Boiling Down to the Known, as Unknown In St. Louis Suburb With Many Doubtful Voters

By **JOSEPH LELYVELD**
Special to The New York Times

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 3—As it is viewed from Robinwood West—a patch of Suburbia U.S.A. that, by its appearance, could be almost anywhere—the

local levels—it seemed that the voters were not so much choosing Mr. Ford as they were rejecting Mr. Carter and the promise of change that he offers.

"I think the mood in this country is to want to settle down a bit," said

much more comparable to that of Mr. Carter than Mr. Ford

Yet the Democrat's promise to apply management techniques rigorously in a way that would make a difference generally aroused skepticism among

Senior Citizens

October 13, 1976

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strauss
946 President Avenue
Building 2, Apartment 14
Tom River, New Jersey 08753

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Strauss:

Thank you for your recent letter and your concern about the plight of senior citizens. I have been asked to respond on behalf of the President Ford Committee.

President Ford has pledged, "...to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation." Among the top priorities of the Ford Administration are income and health security for older Americans.

In his 1976 State of the Union Address, President Ford proposed that Social Security benefits be expanded by the full cost-of-living increase. This benefit became effective on July 1 of this year. To protect the integrity of the Social Security Trust Fund, the President proposed a small increase in both employer and employee social security taxes. This increase would become effective January 1, 1977, and would cost workers a maximum of \$1 a week.

The President proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the older Americans must pay for medical and physicians fees each year. President Ford signed the Amendments to the Older Americans Act that delivers coordinated, comprehensive services and meals to the elderly at the community level and enables older persons to live independent lives in their own homes. In addition to these actions, President Ford has made cutting the rate of inflation his top economic goal. The rate of inflation has been cut in half to around 6% from its high of 12.2% in 1976.

Thank you once again for your concern and interest. With your help and support, President Ford will be elected President on November 2.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence



BN:TS

Hon.

Dear President S. Ford

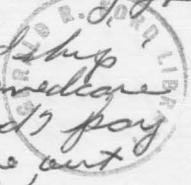
Sept 14, 1976
senior citizens
general 8:45 a.m.

I am taking time out to write to you
I hope you will ans. a personal letter
and not your staff.

We live in a area. were in contact with
a lot of senior citizens. listen to all your
speeches. All ask the same question you
never mention any thing about the
senior citizens. And who would like
to hear what you are doing for them??

My husband and I are (my husband is 75
and I am 69. We have taken care of America
for we are both here my husband was
born in N.Y.C. And I was born Marthamston,
Pa. And have been working since I was 14
year old. for my father died at 38 years old and
left my mother with 7 children. And you know
we didn't have ^{employment insurance} employment at that time.

So we did have it hard my mother never
had welfare or food stamps like they do
to-day and still complaining. But the old people
are forgettor people ^{the young} all they think think is
how bad they have it. I think as young
people have to much. and income is ^{easy} easy
for they don't know how I know hardships
I was sick and had a help from medicare
thank god ^{we} pay in on this. (and I pay
in all this years since it came out
(social security)



and they still take out now for the ²
increase. But thank god with here it.
but I know we have it hard. When I go to
the store to buy any thing I mean food
forget the other things ~~to~~ between the
rent and a car ect, ect my rent goes up
every time my lease is up I mean every
year. We must have a car, I live in
south Jersey. where we don't have buses
like they do in North Jersey, I mean like
Newark, Orange, Bergen, I could go out and
buy. I think we live in a last age.
down here ?? why. (We have a beautiful
shopping mall) here, but I know lot of
people around here cannot get to them
what's a shame, all this buses standing
in school yards doing nothing what's a
pity. for Ocean County. But they are
all out in force went ~~set~~ ^{election}
time here. (true why) ??

I know one thing I don't like a
democrat party. So will vote for
you my husband and my children
will vote for you and I ask some
people here who they like and I am
sure they will vote for you thank
god.

3

I think you will think of us. I like
we are thinking of you. Please
help the old people they did take
care of at S. A. through two world
wars and all the others. I think they
need a thought too from you
and our party, too. Sorry I didn't
give anything for your campaign
for we are short of money and just came
out of the hospital. I hope I stay well
from now on. you just cannot
afford to get sick. ?

I will try to get votes for you
the best I can (sure will try)
here is ~~to~~ 2 votes you can count
on. Hoping to hear from you
sincerely yours

Mrs. Peter Strauss

946 President Ave. Bldg 2 apt 4

Tom River, New Jersey

08753



over

⁴
excuse writing and spelling for it
is hard to write. when you have
so much you want to say
but don't know how.

thank you for taking up
your time for I know you are
a very busy man.

Anna Strauss

a voter

hoping to hear from you.

good luck and good health to
your ~~victory~~ winning the
president for next term.

good luck

for you need it, god bless you
stay well and think of us. ? ? ?

1 1 1

Comments Senior Citizens

October 12, 1976

David and Vera Lawrence
730 Hamilton Drive
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence:

Thank you for sending us your ten suggestions for campaign strategy. Your suggestion about citing specific figures in dollars and cents for the cost of government programs was particularly interesting and useful.

From the many letters we receive on the subject of campaign strategy, I have singled out yours to share with the Director of Opposition Research. We in the Ford Committee believe in a two-way communication with the voters. Since we highly value original thought, we are currently giving full consideration to your ideas.

We really appreciate the time you took to write us. Your interest and support is encouraging. We look forward to victory in November with your help.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN/krh



3557 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 23 Lafayette, Ca. 94549 (415)284-1447 or 937-5284

9/18/76

President Ford
Washington, D.C.

Camp
strat.



Dear President Ford:

My wife + I wanted to drop you a short note with some ideas we think may help you win in Nov. The following are our suggestions:

1. Have Ron Regan give an hour or two speech for you and the party platform just prior to election on prime T.V. time - nationally. It helped immensely during the Goldwater campaign.

2. Give the American public some actual examples of the economics involved (in dollars + cents) as to how some of the Democratic, or for that matter, any government "programs", are going to effect the average wage earner's purse. Most of us are economically illiterate - keep it simple.

3. Establish a permanent computer center in Wash. D.C. with a toll free 800 phone # that citizens can phone and give their opinions to on specific measures + programs + issues congress, the executive + judicial branches are proposing. Let us call you and tell you if we are for or against a proposal. You could even let us suggest new proposals. Sorted out by city, county, state, region, the nation - you folks in Washington could get feedback from your constituents.

4. You should propose a Federal law that gives every worker 100% vesting in his retirement plan and that that vesting can move with the worker from job to job - Employer to Employer. The way they are set up now, the odds of any worker receiving his vesting or his company retirement plan are stacked against him and the managers of the plans use the funds for political and their own economic gain. They are designed with those high odds + requirements are such that it is never intended for

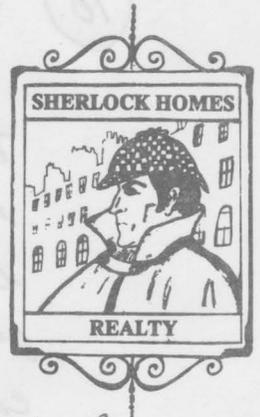
the bulk of the workers to get a co. retirement. It would sure take a load off of our social security program.

5. We believe in Rotation in Office and feel that if our Congressmen served 3 years or 4 and our Senators served 4 yrs. or 5 and our President served 5 or 6 years and each only was permitted one term in office - We would see lots of benefits. No one would be in Wash. long enough to forget that a person has to work for a living. They wouldn't be there long enough for any special interest to get their "hooks" into them and they wouldn't get their "hooks" in to ripping off the public. They would be there to do a job and not political huff or three quarters of the time they were in office. We could give politics some prestige as we would want our best representatives working for us - We might even get some better calibre people to run for office too.

6. As a real estate broker in an area where the average home sells for \$65,000., I am concerned for my children being able to buy a home when they have families. The way it looks now, they probably won't be able to afford one. I feel it is time factory built housing (with production line quality and savings) be supported by the government.

Building codes should be standardized and streamlined and Labor unions convinced of the efficacy of such homes. We still build homes like we built log cabins and the costs are killing us. I also think the U.S. + State Govts. should free up some of their idle lands in housing short areas that could take factory built homes and lease the ground to the owners at a rate commensurate with their incomes.

7. Stop the graduated income tax + all its loopholes. The idea of taxing the rich sounds good to the masses of the voters, but all the graduated tax does is prevent any new people from becoming rich. It in fact protects the old rich who have already accumulated their capital. The loopholes only help the old rich keep more of the income their capital base generates.



9/18/76

7. (cont.) Why don't we have a 10% tax on all personal income? This tax can be paid quarterly by each person. Think of the money in corporate book keeping, government book keeping, etc. that could be saved. Our income tax forms would be so simple, with no loopholes and the mass of non-productive IRS agents and bookkeepers could be freed to work at producing something. It would also mean that we could have some new rich join the club with the old rich and that competition should be stimulating. America used to be a country one came to (as my ancestors did from Canada) to make money. Now it seems we are allowed to earn just enough to live on, but never enough to get ahead with because of our graduated taxes. Either our desire to work and produce and be productive is subverted on us or we become tax evaders or loophole jumpers.
8. Real estate taxes should not be based on improvements but on the land and its zoning. By taxing improvements, buildings in many areas are not improved or even maintained. The idea of taxing someone for making improvements to their property is counter to all American principals. It is truly a negative tax. We should review all of our taxes, their purposes, and revise our system so it becomes more positive and productive instead of negative and confiscatory. We need to get away from socialism and back to capitalism where we can produce capital and enjoy it.
9. Carter's proposal of full employment means guns, shovels, or paper in the hands of the unemployed at our expense. You might tell us what that "plank" of lumber will cost us.

10.

There ought to be some way to limit the federal debt or tie it to the federal income and prevent this tremendous consumption of the American people's substance. If both the congress + senate had to pass by 2/3 majority any increases, perhaps that would slow things down. The biggest cause of inflation, isn't me buying a car, it's you guys, spending and giving away our money. If you don't stop, there will be a taxpayers rebellion. If we all stop paying our taxes, even for one quarter, you would be in trouble.

Enough of our thoughts. We want you to win in Nov. '76 and we want our individual rights preserved. We want some room to move in and a stop to creeping socialism and collectivism. I'm tired of paying someone else's way besides my own. I have never collected unemployment, social security, welfare, etc., but have been paying for these for 20 years or more. I believe that the government can never make another person's demonstration for them - nor can we feed & arm and finance the world. These people & countries must learn to be independent and productive. If they won't change their beliefs, get new ideas, & new habits after we show them a better way, then I feel our responsibility is over to them. God feeds the birds, but he doesn't drop it in their nests. Our government should not try to take up where God leaves off.

Best of luck to you in Nov. -

We are behind you & the party.

P.S. The new tax bill has a real rip off in estate taxes. That should be a good campaign tool for you.

David + Vera Lawrence

September 20, 1976

Senior Citizens ✓

Mr. Clifford H. H. Smith
456 Sophomore Blvd
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for your recent letter addressing the problems of Older Americans. President Ford has faced these problems squarely and has done much to overcome them.

Since the President took office, he has reduced the rate of inflation from over 12% in 1974, to around 6% this year. President Ford will continue to lead the fight against inflation while pursuing economic policies which ensure a sound healthy economy.

President Ford has requested a cost of living increase in Social Security benefits, and has proposed a new program to alleviate the burdens of catastrophic illness. The Ford Administration has financed and proposed many programs directed for Older Americans, one of which is the "Administration on Aging", a program which provides meals, transportation, work, and legal services.

President Ford, has not forgotten America's older citizen; he has a strong commitment to resolving their problems and using their talents.

Thank you for your concern and interest and I hope that President Ford can count on your vote this November.

Sincerely,

BDN/tse

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence



Clifford H. Smith
456 Sophomore Blvd.
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Elder Americans
Senior Citizens

*Camp
Street*

Twin Falls, Idaho
August 30, 1976

General

Committee to Elect
"FORD FOR PRESIDENT"
The White-House
1600 Penn. Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20013

ATTENTION: Director of Campaign
Planning and Strategy

Gentlemen:

S U G G E S T I O N :

It is all good and well that you give proper emphasis to the six campaign issues so recently mentioned in the speech by the Republican Vice-Presidential Nonimee, Senator Bob Dole, but the matter of relief for the AGED (those who have had to retire and live on their 1950 to early 1960's income savings who now find their meager savings wiped away by double-digit inflation) was totally ignored. These people's lifetime savings have now been decreased 50% or more in monetary value and living expenses doubled or tripled.

I convey the views of hundreds (yes thousands) of elderly people in this state and nation who are in this position and who would like to vote a straight Republican ticket but probably will not unless the same visible consideration is given to their plight as is being given to unemployment (primarily the young and middle-aged), home ownership, etc.

You are "missing the boat" by overlooking the very sizable group of voters in this category that well can spell the difference between victory and defeat. They are going to vote for the Candidates that offer them some hope and help. As yet we have been completely forgotten in the speeches and promises of both President Ford and Senator Dole.

Again--this is only a suggestion from the grass-roots but offered because I care and KNOW that it will make a difference. Please try to see that encouragement is given in this direction if you want this vote. Thank you.

Yours truly

C. H. Smith

C. H. SMITH
~~456~~ Sophomore Blvd.
456



Dr. Citizens ✓

September 8, 1976

Ms. Karen Thompson
Edelman Inc.
2121 East Lake Street
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Thank you for contacting the President Ford Committee.
Your interest in the campaign is appreciated.

President Ford has pledged "to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our nation". The enclosed material should help provide you with a clearer understanding of the President's position in this crucial area. Should you need additional information, please feel free to call or write us at any time.

Thanks again for your cooperation and interest. I apologize for the delay in answering your request.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL
Answer Desk
Coordinator

RQ:tw
enclosure



Senior citizen ✓

September 8, 1976

Mrs. Mary G. Fitzell
7600 North Park Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21219

Dear Mrs. Fitzell:

Thank you for your very generous contribution to President Ford's campaign. We think that it is commendable when someone sends us a contribution and pledges their support. We think that it is marvelous that a person who is 81 years old is so politically active and supporting of President Ford. It was through the generosity of many Americans, like yourself, that our financial goal was reached.

President Ford looks forward to the challenges of the campaign and to the opportunity to serve the American people as President again. He stated in his acceptance speech on August 19, 1976...

"While I am President .. we will build an America where people feel rich in spirit as in worldly goods. We will build an America where people feel proud about themselves and about their country."

You have helped us towards our goal financially by your contribution, and can help President Ford by voting for him in November.

Thank you once again for your support. Wishing you the best of health in the future.

Sincerely,

Barbara Norris
Director of Correspondence

BN/dsp



Senior Citizen

Standard
contribution
reply
with a paragraph
conventional
near for
still
were
so
political
active
at
8/

President Gerald R. Ford
c/o The President Ford Committee
P. O. Box 300
Washington, D.C. 20044

\$50.00

Dear Mr. President:

Yes, I want to be a part of your campaign effort. I believe as you do that 1976 will be a critical election year for America, and I want to see you elected so that you may carry on the programs and policies outlined in your letter.

During 1975 to the Republican National Committee over \$100. and on December 31, 1975 I mailed a check to the same committee for \$25. for you 1976. Enclosed is my contribution for: Is not this paid to your campaign? If not, why?

\$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000

(Mrs. Roy F.) Mary G. Fitzell 99C1
Name (Please print)

Mary G. Fitzell
Signature of Contributor

7600 North Park Rd.
Address

Baltimore Maryland 21219
City State Zip Code

Retired Check for \$50.00 enclosed
Occupation Place of Business

I am past my 61st year and have a very modest income.
Please make checks payable to: THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE.

Only personal checks may be accepted—corporate contributions are prohibited by law.

The President Ford Committee is the only organization, under law, which may raise and spend money in behalf of President Ford's campaign.

Individuals are limited to contributions of \$1,000—spouses and children over 18 years of age may also contribute up to \$1,000. The individual contributor must sign the check or this contribution form.

Please return your contribution in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE, Howard H. Callaway, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

If you are a Federal employee or if you have a matter pending before a Federal regulatory commission or a Federal agency, please disregard this appeal.



Sr. Citizens-General

September 2, 1976

Mr. Oliver A. Michels
1026 16th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Michels:

Thank you for your interest in President Ford's positions on the problems of the elderly. Enclosed you will find excerpts of the President's remarks addressing your concerns. I hope that this will satisfactorily answer your question.

Thanks again for your interest. I hope that after consideration of the issues facing the nation you will support the President in November. If we may be of further assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Rob Quartel
Answer Desk Coordinator



Sr Citizen ✓

August 26, 1976

Ms. Lisette Owens
8671 Cerritos Avenue
Stanton, Ca. 90680

Dear Ms. Owens:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing support for President Ford. We appreciate your interest ~~and~~ the concern of individuals like yourself is an invaluable contribution to the campaign.

I apologize for the number of times that you have been contacted regarding contributions. Your good wishes and support, however, are actually the greatest contribution that you can personally give to the campaign. Although enthusiasm is an intangible contribution, it ~~never~~ nevertheless, is something, that cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

President Ford is making every effort to improve the security, health and quality of life of older Americans. As the President has stated:

Older Americans continue to enrich our lives with their vision, strength, and experience. They've earned the right to live securely, comfortably and independently.

Therefore, the President has proposed increased Social Security and Medicare benefits. In addition, he has signed into law the Employee Retirement Income Security Act as well as the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 which provides for low-interest rates for housing of the elderly.

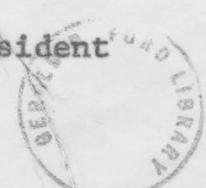
President Ford has done much to combat inflation but looks forward to the next four years during which time he can continue to keep our nation on the road to a bright, more optimistic future.

Thank you again for your support and I hope that President Ford can count on your vote in November.

Sincerely,

BDN/fe

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence



Ms. Lisette Owens
8671 Cerritos Ave.
Stanton, California

Lisette Owens age 74
8671
Cerritos, apts #4
Stanton Ca. 90680

Senior Citizen
7-8-76
Stanton Ca.

Dear Mr president:

Well maybe you will never read this, but I'm going to write it anyway. Well you ask for money many times, well last week I got a small raise 6.4% which I was very glad for, but before I could get my check cashed the landlord raised my rent \$15.00 now making it \$160.00 a mo. now how in the Hell can one contribute to anything at the rate things are going up daily. there are 6 apt houses in our midst, 6 apt in each unit, making 36 apts. giving each one \$15.00 raise, now I understand this man own's 3 more complexes, besides he is a Doctor, now I'm sure any Doctor makes plenty of money and doesn't have to gouge renter's, why can't some protection put on to protect us Senior Citizen's, from getting one raise after another. it takes much more then half of my sb. & d. check for rent + utilities, I would like to live a little longer + not starve, I can't contribute any thing unless I deny myself of food.

August 12, 1976

8/24
senior citizens
general

Irs Nelson Tuck
801 North Broad Street, Apt. 4D
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208

Dear Mr. Tuck:

Thank you for your letter to Mr. Rogers Morton. I have been asked to reply and want, first to apologize for the delay in answering your letter. We have been swamped with letters and have been making every effort to reply to each one in a meaningful way.

President Ford is, of course, much concerned with the problems of Older Americans. He believes they have made--and must be allowed to continue to make--invaluable contributions to the strength, stability, and advancement of our society. As their role increasingly becomes recognized and acknowledged, a provision such as you outline in your letter will undoubtedly have to become an integral part of future programs designed to ensure the well-being--and the productivity--of our older citizens.

Sincerely,

ROB QUAREEL
Answer Desk Coordinator

RQ/cm

*Senior Citizens
General*

August 5, 1976

Mrs. George Reneke
Alma, Nebraska
68920

Dear Mrs. Reneke:

Thank you so much for your letter of July 7th and
your kind words of support and prayers.

Even though you cannot send a financial contribution,
your loyalty and dedication to the President's cause
is a great help to us and we are grateful for it.

Thanks ~~again~~ for writing and it is good to know the
President can count on your support in the months
ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm



Alma Kehr, July 7 1976
ALMA, NEBR. 68920

President Ford Committee
Washington D.C. 20044

Dear Friends on Ford Committee;

I have wanted to send you another contribution. But here in Alma seems things are not too good for writing checks and I was told one man was on trial and is in jail for 6 months,

And I am alone here and seems folks are on the watch,

So I do not want to go on trial now at age 91 years. But I do not hesitate to talk to God and am asking his support for our Present President as we need him back in his Office. And God can do more than I know I can, I do hope you will pardon me on this

MRS. GEORGE RENEKE

Sincerely,

Mrs George Reneke

P.S. I am so sorry about all this



Senior Citizens: general ✓

August 4, 1976

Mr. Mike Jimafon
American Health Care Assoc.
1200 - 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Jimafon:

Thank you for contacting the President Ford Committee.
Your interest in the campaign is appreciated.

President Ford is deeply committed to meeting the needs of Older Americans. In the area of nursing homes, the President has proposed:

- Expanding Medicare ~~benefits~~ by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing facility care.
- Limiting the out-of-pocket expenses of beneficiaries for covered services to \$500 per year for hospital and skilled nursing services.
- The collection of information on nursing homes nationally to recommend sound policies to improve and raise the quality of long-term care for the elderly.
- Development of a national rating system for nursing homes receiving Medicaid and Medicare funds.

I hope this information, and the enclosed material, will help answer most of your questions. Should you need any additional material, please feel free to call or write us at any time.

Thank you again for your interest and concern.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL
Answer Desk
Coordinator



RQ:mg

Enclosure

Pres. Ford Campaign Manager - July 9 1975

Dear Sir

Listening to the news on radio today prompted me to write this letter.

Perhaps the following might be a good subject to be brought up at this time for votes from Senior Citizens who are single, and I believe should be entitled to use "head of household rates in computing their income tax".

I am a senior citizen and in November 1974 I received a reply to my letter to the President signed by Ethel M. Stanley Jr. Associate Director, Office of Tax Analysis. Among other things it mentioned, "fairness of the relative tax burden on different types of household has been questioned since the early days of the income tax".

I feel a single person living alone has the same expenses as a couple



person leasing an apartment or owning
a home and should be given more considera-
tion.

Thank you for any courtesy
extended.

Please bring this to the attention
of the President.

Very truly yours
Miss Margaret M. Lally
105 Wm England Ave
Summit N.J. 07901

Senior Citizens ✓
~~Dr. Citizens~~
~~.....~~
Ibbetson

July 27, 1976

Mrs. A. Ibbetson
2923 Queen Avenue
West Dearborn Michigan 48124

Dear Mr. Ibbetson:

Thank you for your note and your comments on certain issues of interest and great concern to you. We appreciate your sharing your thoughts with us and your opinions have been carefully noted.

As senior citizens, your generosity in the past has been an asset to President Ford and he thanks you for all the help you have given. He also shares your concern for inflation and medical costs for our older citizens and has worked to bring relief in these areas for people living on fixed incomes. I am enclosing a pamphlet that might be of interest to you in this area.

Thank you again for keeping in touch and it is good to know the President can count on your support in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm
Enc.



President Ford '76 Club

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

COUNT ME IN AS A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT FORD '76 CLUB.

*we get letters from all persons running for the white house for a
Yes, I want to support President Ford. Enclosed is my contribution of: \$ Hand outs,*

Please print or type

MRS. A. IBBETSON
2923 Queen Avenue
W. Dearborn, Mich. 48124

Mr. Mrs. Miss Other

How about bussing and
Employer Federal Medical Control

Employer Address of Doctors and Hospitals like

City Canada, skyrocketing of living costs, State Zip

Occupation Retired, inflation!

** Name We have already made a*

Home Address Couple of Contributions

City we a Senior Citizens on

fixed Pensions.
Signature of Contributor:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Please make checks payable to: **THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE.** Only personal checks may be accepted—corporate contributions are prohibited by law.

THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

Federal Spending?

L2

A Reminder to Our Contributors

President Ford recently signed into law a Tax Reform Bill which doubles the amount of political contributions which can be deducted on your 1976 federal income tax return.

An individual filing a separate return has the following options:

1. Take a direct tax credit of an amount equal to one-half of total annual political contributions up to \$25 *or*,

2. Take a regular deduction of total annual political contributions up to \$100.

A couple filing a joint return has the following options:

1. Take a direct tax credit of an amount equal to one-half total annual political contributions up to \$50 *or*,
2. *Take a regular deduction of total annual political contributions up to \$200.*

You may choose whichever one of these methods is most advantageous to you!

~~No Card~~

Issues
SENIOR CITIZENS
(General)

July 22, 1976

Mrs. Hazel C. Rouse
7 Highland Avenue
Washington, D.C. 15301

Dear Mrs. Rouse:

The President has asked that I thank you for your kind letter and words of support. He appreciates your loyalty and dedication, they mean a great deal to him. Your contribution of helping through your efforts to speak out in his behalf will help his campaign tremendously in the long run.

The President believes that older Americans continue to enrich our lives with their vision, strength and experience and that they've earned the right to live securely, comfortably and independently. He is working continuously for your benefit and to improve the quality of life for all our senior citizens.

Thank you again for writing and it is good to know the President can count on your support in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm



Issue -

Yes, Mr. President,
you can count on me.

7 Highland Ave
Washington 15301

Dear Mr. President -

I am in your corner 100% and
have a picture of you and Betty
in my stairway, but I am 73
and on small social security so
am unable to send any more
contribution - but I do ⁰⁰⁰¹ a lot of
talking and sure hope you
make it and please be good
to the old people. It's ashame
some people have so much, there
should be some way to take from
the old rich and give to the poor.
I get by, but a lot don't. Sincerely,
Hazel Chouse

President Gerald R. Ford
c/o The President Ford Committee
P. O. Box 300
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. President:

Yes, I want to be a part of your campaign effort. I believe as you do that 1976 will be a critical election year for America, and I want to see you elected so that you may carry on the programs and policies outlined in your letter.

Enclosed is my contribution for:

- \$15 \$25 \$50 \$100
 \$250 \$500 \$1,000

99HI

Name (Please print)

Signature of Contributor

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Occupation

Place of Business

Please make checks payable to: THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE.
Only personal checks may be accepted—corporate contributions are prohibited by law.

The President Ford Committee is the only organization, under law, which may raise and spend money in behalf of President Ford's campaign.

Individuals are limited to contributions of \$1,000—spouses and children over 18 years of age may also contribute up to \$1,000. The individual contributor must sign the check or this contribution form.

Please return your contribution in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

If you are a Federal employee or if you have a matter pending before a Federal regulatory commission or a Federal agency, please disregard this appeal.

~~Support~~ Support

7-9-76

File also

Senior
Senior

Dear Mr Mosbacher:

Thanks for your kind letter
of July 1-76.

I have always been 100%
for Pres Ford and Nelson Rockefeller.
I noticed in the enclosed letter, it says
I sent a \$50.00 contribution in 1975.

→ The only contributing was for
Pres Ford only.

Congressman Vander Jagt was
very kind in writing me, but please
destroy letters etc of July 4/76 -
it has been an error, any
money from me was for
Pres Ford and sent to him.

God bless you, President Ford,
& Rockefeller.

Sincerely,

Shelma LeBaron
age 78.



Dr. Citizens ✓

July 7, 1976

Mr. George L. Bertrand
348 W. Clackamas Circle
Woodburn, Oregon 97071

Dear Mr. Bertrand:

Thank you for your letter of May 17th to the President Ford Committee regarding the President's policies on senior citizens and retired federal employees.

In charging false advertising, you seem to dismiss the increased Social Security tax which has no other purpose than to insure prompt payments to the elderly who are entitled to such benefits; catastrophic illness protection which is essential to elder citizens; and other programs designed specifically to aid older Americans. These are substantial programs deserving of support.

With regard to the President's policy toward retired Federal employees, I think that your concern is understandable; but you should in your own interest look at the larger picture. This country has been in a serious recession in which the inflation rate at one point hit over 12%. Such a drastic inflation hurts the very people with whom you identify. The President has targeted inflation as the major ill of the economy and adopted a budget plan accordingly. As a result, inflation has been cut in half. There are many older Americans who do not come under any cost-of-living escalator, and their interests are protected by the President's courageous stand on budget issues. If you consider these facts, I think that you will find that not only has there been no false advertising; but there has been some failure to adequately communicate the President's accomplishments.

Thank you for your thoughtful letter. We appreciate your taking the time to write to us.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL
Answer Desk Coordinator

RQ/ljp



July 2, 1976

Issue
(Senior citizens)

Ms. Virginia R. Fiess
Catholic Social Services
222 North Seventeenth Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Dear Ms. Fiess:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting information on what President Ford has done to help older Americans. We appreciate your interest in this subject which is of particular concern to the President. The President is firmly committed to meeting the needs of older Americans as well as drawing on their strengths in resolving the problems facing America. His recommendations in this area attest to that fact.

President Ford has noted that the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older Americans is inflation. In light of this, in his budget request for fiscal 1977, the President has requested a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits that will help bolster the purchasing power of 32 million older Americans. Likewise, the President signed a \$22.8 billion dollar anti-recession tax cut bill that included payment of \$50 each to some 34 million individuals receiving Social Security, Railroad Retirement, and Supplemental Security Income benefits. In addition, families caring for elderly persons were benefitted by a liberalization of the tax reduction rules.

Additionally, President Ford has signed the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, which, among other things, provides for subsidizing housing for low income renters and authorizes direct, low-interest loans for housing for the elderly.

The President has also signed into law Title XX of the Social Security Act which provides 2.5 billion dollars to the states for social services. Under Title XX, older persons will receive increased services, planned and implemented by state and local governments.

Lastly, President Ford has supported the concept of the Older Americans Act since its inception in 1965. This past November, the President strengthened the Act when he signed into law amendments creating new services and goals. Under President Ford's administration, \$272 million - almost seven times the amount available three years earlier - went to this program. Through the Administration on Aging, created by this Act, a national network on aging composed of state, area and nutrition agencies has been established. As an example of what the Act does, nutrition agencies serve older persons over 300,000 hot meals a day, five days a week at 5,000 locations.



Ms. Virginia R. Fiess - 2
7/2/76

These are but a few of the many proposals that the President has put forth in an effort to help America's older citizens. I hope that this information has been of interest to you, but please feel free to contact us if any further problems arise. Thank you again, and I hope that President Ford can count on your support in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence





ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

222 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET - PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19103 - (215) 587-3500

June 11, 1976

President Ford Reelection Committee
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

As one who works with the elderly I am interested in knowing what the President's plans are for those over 65.

Please send me any information on his plans for older adults in the new term of office.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Ms. Virginia R. Fiess



BARTON S. MITCHELL
BALTIMORE, MD.

June 8, 1976

Mr. Robert Mosbacher, Finance Chairman
President Ford Committee
1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 250
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Mosbacher:

As a supporter of President Ford I am writing to make a suggestion.

Other than the fact that I have been listening to enough campaign rhetoric to last a lifetime, I don't feel that the message is getting out to the people as to what the President's real accomplishments have been in what is coming up on two years that he has been in office. In my opinion, his actions in vetoing the deluge of spending bills that the giveaway Democratic Congress has showered on the White House is the key element in the fact that it is pretty generally agreed that the economy is on its way to recovery. This is certainly a generalization, but with the resources at your disposal it seems to me that a nationwide, state by state, campaign effort should contain such a thrust in all the media.

Other areas of domestic and foreign affairs certainly can show similar accomplishments. I guess what I really am saying is that all the other candidates in both parties are spending a lot of money and a lot of time letting the people know what they think has not been accomplished. I don't get the impression that the Ford Campaign is getting the message across as to what has been accomplished. Maybe it is in your strategy to lay back. If it is I hope you are right in doing so because you have to get past Reagan.

The President came in to office under extremely difficult circumstances and in my opinion he has handled himself very well since that time. He deserves the opportunity to serve a full term.



BARTON S. MITCHELL
BALTIMORE, MD.

(2)

But if he is going to get that opportunity, his campaign is going to have to get it for him by letting the people know what has been accomplished and what can be accomplished by continuation of existing programs and policies. It is certainly true that there are tremendous tangible and intangible benefits in waging a campaign of the incumbent. It seems to me however, that the opposition is more determined than ever. And the media is no less zealous in their interest in criticizing everything that anybody tries to do. This is what you have to overcome and I sincerely hope you will give it the maximum effort.

Sincerely,



Barton S. Mitchell

BSM:mce

P. O. Box 2799
Baltimore, Md. 21225



Senior Citizens: general

June 14, 1976

Mrs. Lula C. Cox
231 Bibb Street
Preskegee Institute
Alabama 35088

Dear Mrs. Cox:

My sincere apology for having taken so long to respond.

Enclosed is a pamphlet regarding President Ford's plans for helping older Americans and retired persons. I hope it answers all of your questions. If not, please feel free to write us again.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL
Answer Desk Coordinator

RQ:mm
enclosure



Senior Citizens: general
6/23/76
opinion-support

June 14, 1976

Mr. Lloyd Richardson
9250 East Marginal Way
Seattle, Washington 98108

Dear Mr. Richardson:

Thank you for your recent letter to Rogers Morton and for taking the time to share your thoughts with the President Ford Committee.

I have enclosed⁰⁵ a brochure containing President Ford's views and programs for our country's older persons. After reading it, I think you will soon learn of President Ford's deep concern for our nation's senior citizens. You may be assured that he has your best interests in mind and heart as he formulates policy on behalf of older Americans.

We appreciate your affirmation of support for President Ford. I hope that he may continue to enjoy your confidence in the months to come.

Sincerely,

Barbara Norris
Director of Correspondence

BN/alm



Rogers Morton
President Ford Committee
1828-L-ST N.W. Suite 250
Washington D.C. 20036

Lloyd Richardson
9250-E-Marginal Way
Seattle Wash 98108

I don't believe Ronald Reagan can be elected President of the U.S. until he satisfactorily explains his present and future attitude on all Pensions. The people of California may have forgotten but while he was Governor he had them in terrible fear, especially the old people when (if I am not mistaken) he ~~took~~ indirectly took Pension Moneys away from the old people and forced the Relatives to support them when many complained they didn't have enough for themselves. To most of the people I talked to in California at that time his action meant that he was against all Pensions and would go back to the "No Pension County Poor Farm" days for the old people. I believe if he don't—

answer it now the Democrats
will use it against him in the
General Election Campaigns.
The people also blamed Reagan
for not paying his state and
Federal Income Taxes and
Vetoing a Bill to institute
withholding on the already
existing California state Income
Tax, this would have saved the
State of California millions of
Dollars in Interest paid to the
Banks on money borrowed to pay
state expenses until the tax
moneys came in at the end of the year
adding to the already-high state
debt. By finally signing this Bill
under pressure and Indirectly
~~cutting~~ taking pension money
away from the old people he
took credit for balancing
the Budget and paying the Debt.
Being an Independent and not
being able to get a job because
of my age and not too far
from retirement, I am concerned.
do you have a job for me?

*Comments ✓
Sr. Citizen*

April 28, 1976

Mr. William L. Wessels
Blue Mountain Lake
New York, New York 12812

Dear Mr. Wessels:

Then President has asked me to thank you so much for
your letter of March 17th and your generous contribution
to his campaign.

We appreciate your support and help, you are to be
commended for sharing part of your limited income to
assist the President. Enclosed is a certificate of
our appreciation for your generosity.

Thanks again for your kind words.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm
Encl.



WILLIAM L. WESSELS
ADVERTISING - PUBLICITY - AUTHOR
ADIRONDACKS - NEW YORK STATE

ADDRESS
BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE
NEW YORK 12812
TEL. 352-7772

Senior
citizen

15-

March 27-1976.

Dear President Lock!

your compe-
hens in letter March 22-21-
cessed here in Florida - a
letter with hearty friend.

See how
most modest check for \$152.00
to help along the good cause

I am retired
at age 82 and my income is
solely from pension from
Savings Bonds - stocks and Bonds
It is a hassle to make ends
meet.

Sincerely yours,
William L. Wessels



~~Comments~~
Mr. Coate ✓

April 27, 1976

Mr. James H. Coate
6833 S.E. Pine Court
Portland, Oregon 97215

Dear Mr. Coate,

We thank you for your recent letter to President Ford. The President is well aware of the difficulties that you experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living.

The contributions you can make to his campaign are not measured solely by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas are invaluable to the President and your support is a real asset.

Please know that we are all sympathetic to the pressures that taxes create for people, especially for senior American citizens. The President continues to seek the best solutions to our complex problems.

Thanks again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris
Director of Correspondence

BDN/bw



I will be 89 on 6/1/76. My wonderful
wife for 64+ years was seriously ill for 6 years
etc.

SP. CITIZEN

JAMES H. COATE
6833 S.E. PINE COURT
PORTLAND, OREGON 97215

Mar 31 1976

Dear President Ford.

Do we need to reply
to this?

Yours of March 25th.

I have been making Income Tax
Returns since 1917 but have
never had as many problems as
I have on 1975.

Arthur Young & Co and predecessors
have prepared my Income Tax Returns
since 1938 but tell me they will
not be able to make a rough estimate
of amount of amount tax I will
have pay on 4/15 prior to 4/9 or 10
due to changes effective on 75
income on account of my dear
wife's death 9/6/74 and her will
providing for Marital Trust
being set up for over three
children ages 58-61-64.

I am deferring any commitments
on everything until I know how
much I have to borrow on 4/14. If you
do not hear from me by 4/18, remind me again.
Quite sure I can do something. James H. Coate

~~Handwritten signature~~
Dr. Citizens

April 19, 1976

Mr. J.J. Chambers, Jr.
825 Anchor Drive, Box 1222
Forked River, N.J. 08731

Dear Mr. Chambers:

We sincerely appreciate your letter of March 12. Please be assured that President Ford is sympathetic to your problems and those of all senior citizens.

The President has stressed repeatedly his belief that the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older citizens is inflation. Thus, his chief economic priority has been to fight inflation--the double digit inflation of 1974 has been cut nearly in half at this point.

In his recent State of the Union Message, the President proposed a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits payments which if passed, should be of help to you.

In his tax package, President Ford signed legislation to extend the 1975 tax cut; recommended an increase in the personal exemption from \$750 to \$1,000 and substitution of a single standard deduction--\$2,500 for couples filing jointly--for the existing low income allowance and percentage standard deduction.

And, in a major new program to aid senior citizens, President Ford has proposed extending Medicare benefits by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing care for beneficiaries and limiting the out-of-pocket expenses for beneficiaries for covered services to \$500 per year for hospital and skilled nursing care and \$250 per year for non-institutional medical services.

Again, we appreciate your letter and are hopeful of your support.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL
Answer Desk Coordinator



RQ:mm
enclosures

Senior Citizens

April 6, 1976

Mrs. Frances Harding
1416 South 6th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147

Dear Mrs. Harding,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman
for Administration



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 04722

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL Donor restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Letter
CREATOR'S NAME Mrs. Frances Harding
RECEIVER'S NAME Gerald Ford
DESCRIPTION personal/financial
CREATION DATE 03/08/1976

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 003403455
COLLECTION TITLE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN
RECORDS
BOX NUMBER B82
FOLDER TITLE Senior Citizens (1) - (2)
DATE WITHDRAWN 04/15/1992
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST LET

~~old~~
Senior Citizen

April 6, 1976

Miss Florence L. Long
111 20th Street #525
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

Dear Miss Long,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman
for Administration



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 04723

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL Donor restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Letter
CREATOR'S NAME Miss. Florence Long
RECEIVER'S NAME Gerald Ford
DESCRIPTION personal/financial
CREATION DATE 03/18/1976

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 003403455
COLLECTION TITLE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN
RECORDS
BOX NUMBER B82
FOLDER TITLE Senior Citizens (1) - (2)

NEW LOCATION Donor Restriction Closed File
DATE WITHDRAWN 04/15/1992
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST Leesa E. Tobin
KNOWN DUPLICATES No

Yellow

~~older~~ ✓
Senior Citizens

April 6, 1976

Mrs. Herman Glienke
Route 1
Alta, Iowa 51002

Dear Mrs. Glienke,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman
for Administration



Alta Iowa
March 7th 1976

Dear President Mr. Ford

May our God and Lord grant you long Life and His Blessings for your work as our President, and may You and all those that work together with you look to God for guidance and help as you perform your duties, every Sunday Morning I say a Prayer for you Mr. President and for all Government Officials asking our Father in Heaven to lead you in His ways, and that our Lord may hold ^{His} protecting hand over this our Beloved United States of America.

Please read the Booklet I'm inclosing, "Our Bicentennial America at the Crossroads". Mr. Graham explains what I'd like to write about but I'm not good at finding the right words, just want to add, American People and Government turn back to God our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The future does not look bright but dark, so much Crime and Murder and then they get

away with it and go, and do the same thing over again, those that kill others should also be put to death and not let them run loose, in the Holy Bible Matthew 26, v. 51, 52, 53, we read about this.

Unemployment is, also not good and how does it come about? Women want to rule the Country, work away from home, are not satisfied with that what the Husband earns, their God given duty is in the home to take good care of the children instead of leaving them with a Baby sitter, cook a good meal for their Husband and leave the other jobs for the men, if People would read the Bible Proverbs for home life and Ecclesiastes about King Solomon for Government and then Fear Love and Trust God above all things, God tells us through the Prophet Malachi Chapter 3 how He will Bless us if we listen to Him. We are to keep the Sabbath Day Holy and rest our tired bodies, go to God's House and listen to His Word, instead many People

work all day Sunday to make more Money
and forget that all depends on Gods Blessing
And now Mr. President you are asking for
Money for Campaigning and that seems un-
necessary to me, we pay Taxes and every
year we have to pay more Taxes, there has
to be a limit to that all of you in Washington
should learn how to save cut down the expenses
instead of all the trips to other Countries
you should look after things here and
bear with the Farmers a little more if the
Farmers go broke then who shall feed all
the City People, we better not say this can not
happen to our Country, it has happened in Bible
time and also to Germany during and after
the War, those People had forsaken the Lord
and God punished them and we are not
any better, if we do not repent from our
Sinful ways and ask God to forgive us
He will also punish us.

Now Mr. President I suppose this my
scribbling will just land in the Waste

Paper basket, I know that I can not write a perfectly worded letter, but beings you wrote to me I feel like I owe you a few lines I'm sorry that I did not answer sooner, I kept putting it off because my letter writing ambition is failing me at my age of 76 or 77 in April God willing to let me live that long, My now departed Husband and I have lived under Gods protection and Blessing for 52 years, Blessed with 10 healthy children, later with 41 Grandchildren, a lot of hard work but with our Lords help we made it, there still is a lot to do with Letters arriving sometimes 3 in a day asking for Donations to help the poor and needy in this wide World of ours. I'll try to help them in a little way, and also by Lutheran World Relief.

As long as God lets me live and in good ^{keep me} Mind I will keep on Praying for you and our Country, Sincerely

Mrs. Herman Gienke

R1 Alta Iowa 51002



Senior Citizens: general

~~Issues~~ ✓

April 6, 1976

Mr. Elwood Allison
1115 El Centro Avenue
Oakland, California 94602

Dear Mr. Allison:

Thank you very much for your recent comments on the status of older Americans throughout the country. Letters such as yours provide those of us at the President Ford Committee, an excellent gauge of public opinion.

President Ford shares your concern with the quality of life for the elderly in America. In a recent special message to Congress, the President asked Congress to "help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and workh of our older persons."

He feels the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older Americans is inflation. Consequently, the President's 1977 budget requests include a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits, that will help bolster the purchasing power of 32 million older Americans.

In a major new program to alleviate the burden of catastrophic illness the President proposes extending medicare benefits by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing facility care for beneficiaries as well as placing limits on the out of pocket expenses of beneficiaries for covered services.

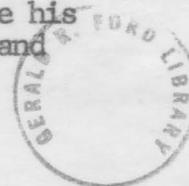
Under President Ford's administration \$272 million, almost seven times the amount available three years earlier, has been spent on programs authorized by the older Americans Act. In November of 1975 the President signed into law amendments to the Act designed to strengthen the current program and to create even more services.

We hope these actions, and others which the President has taken and will continue to take on behalf of older Americans, demonstrate his concern. We also hope that these actions merit your approval and support in the upcoming election.

Thanks again for your comments.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman for Administration



GERALD R. FORD
WASHINGTON

February 16, 1976

Mr. E. Allison
1115 El Centro Ave
Oakland, California 94602

Dear Mr. Allison:

In the past, you have generously supported the Republican party and its candidates for office. Today, I am writing to ask for your support for my own campaign.

Let me try to set forth what I believe can be accomplished with your help and that of other concerned Americans. As I see it, our country 17 months ago began an experience that was unique in the history of our democracy: we transferred the reins of the highest office in the land to a man chosen for that office under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.

The country was facing one of its sternest tests. Bitterness, rancor and distrust festered in the body politic. The longest, most divisive war in our history was winding toward an unhappy conclusion, and many feared that the end of an external war would mean the beginning of an internal war of recriminations. And finally, our economy was afflicted with the disease of inflation -- inflation so serious that it would ultimately drive us into the worst recession in a generation. Clearly, there were great challenges both for me and for the Nation.

I have tried during these months to give my very best to the American people and to the causes which we hold dear as a Nation. I lay no claim to perfection; much remains to be done. But the hemorrhaging has been stopped, and the process of healing has begun. Our spiritual and economic health is returning.

The moment has now come, I believe, when we can begin to look ahead once again -- to envision the America we would like to see during our third century as a Nation and to formulate concrete programs that will make our dreams come true. Our Bicentennial should be more than a year of brass bands and birthday banners; it should be a year when we choose a fresh, positive course for ourselves and for our children.

February 16, 1976
Mr. E. Allison

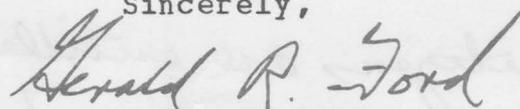
As President, I want to build upon the progress of the past by charting and guiding the Nation toward a brighter future. I am pledged first and foremost to bringing a renaissance of the individual in our society. I want to reverse the flow of power to centralized government and to give people more power over their own lives. I am convinced that personal satisfaction and happiness can only be achieved in America when individual citizens have the freedom and the ability to determine their own destinies. I am also pledged to strengthening the spiritual and moral values in our country. We have to restore a greater sense of meaning to our lives. Finally, I am pledged to keeping America strong in the world -- strong in its economy, strong in its military power, strong in its commitment to liberty. Freedom is endangered across the globe; now, even more than in Lincoln's day, America is truly "the last, best hope of earth."

During the course of the year, I will be setting forth many concrete proposals to start us down this road. I will ask that we cut both taxes and Federal spending. I will press once again for stronger legislation to promote energy independence. I will advocate reductions in governmental regulation. I will seek to create new jobs and reduce inflation through a variety of steps, including greater capital formation. I will seek changes in the structure of government so that the government is more effective, more honest, and more responsive to the needs of the American people. Some of these programs were spelled out in my recent State of the Union Address; others will be included in forthcoming messages and speeches.

This will be a positive, substantive agenda, but let us always recognize a singular truth: policy pronouncements can only be translated into reality when they have the active support of the American people. That is why I am turning to you for help -- financial help that is needed to make my campaign a success and to set the country on a better course for the future. I hope that you will join me.

I believe in America and I believe that when Americans work together, there is almost nothing we cannot accomplish. Let this be the year when we rekindle the Spirit of '76, and let us work together to make the Bicentennial a fitting celebration for America.

Sincerely,



Gerald R. Ford

Monday, March 8, 1976

Brochure

Dear President Ford:

I am not prepared to support you until you indicate some concrete evidence to assist older citizens to have health care, a sound social security program a proper honest welfare program. I do not see any honest reason for our senators and representatives being allowed to increase their salaries now or any later time, especially since we have inflation and many, many of your people going without food and proper medical care.

You have not done or recommended a health care program for older citizens at anytime during your term of office, even though this need has been recognized and talked about for over 10 years. You have recommended a plan which penalizes the older people. While you and the senators and representatives have health care provided, free of charge, in any of our armed forces hospitals in the land. Is this honest and fair to the older people? Don't you feel the older citizens are entitled to care as much as these government employees?

You have done nothing, nor have you recommended anything that will make social security safe and



fair for older people, while at the same time you have provided yourselves with good retirement incomes. Is this fair and honest? Are not our citizens, old, entitled to something for their old age? You government officials have seen to it to provide for yourselves, while some of the older persons are completely neglected.

I believe in America, too, and feel there are many wonderful advantages in America and have spent several years of my life in working for the principles of our land.

In this letter, there is not one single statement regarding social security, health care and a determined change of food stamps or welfare. Lets take a definite stand and speak forward with

honesty and fairness

Sincerely,

Elwood Allison



~~Older~~
Senior Citizens ✓

April 6, 1976

Mr. and Mrs. L. Schaeffer
7551 Beech Avenue
Hammond, Indiana 46324

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Schaeffer,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman
for Administration



February 16, 1976
Mar. 8, 1976

Dear Mr. President.

We would like very much to be able to help with your campaign and the Republican Party but we are on Social Security only and it is very hard to keep our bills paid and buy groceries, and try to maintain our home.

It seems like the money spent for parks, money sent overseas could be put to a better use here in our own country for the elderly.

If the utilities are permitted to get increases all the time, we don't see how many, many people our age can keep on going.

The cry is to build more places to live like big units, it takes heat for these, extra and we are supposed to conserve. We sit around with sweaters on, blankets over our feet and legs, close off rooms to try to conserve heating costs.

Why can't something be done about things?

The aged need help and more help. Utilities could have special rates for the ^{needy} retired people.

Respectfully

7551 Beck Ave Hammond Ind Mr & Mrs J Schaffer
46324

February 16, 1976
Mr. & Mrs. L. Schaeffer

7551 Beech Ave
Hammond Ind 46324

As President, I want to build upon the progress of the past by charting and guiding the Nation toward a brighter future. I am pledged first and foremost to bringing a renaissance of the individual in our society. I want to reverse the flow of power to centralized government and to give people more power over their own lives. I am convinced that personal satisfaction and happiness can only be achieved in America when individual citizens have the freedom and the ability to determine their own destinies. I am also pledged to strengthening the spiritual and moral values in our country. We have to restore a greater sense of meaning to our lives. Finally, I am pledged to keeping America strong in the world -- strong in its economy, strong in its military power, strong in its commitment to liberty. Freedom is endangered across the globe; now, even more than in Lincoln's day, America is truly "the last, best hope of earth."

During the course of the year, I will be setting forth many concrete proposals to start us down this road. I will ask that we cut both taxes and Federal spending. I will press once again for stronger legislation to promote energy independence. I will advocate reductions in governmental regulation. I will seek to create new jobs and reduce inflation through a variety of steps, including greater capital formation. I will seek changes in the structure of government so that the government is more effective, more honest, and more responsive to the needs of the American people. Some of these programs were spelled out in my recent State of the Union Address; others will be included in forthcoming messages and speeches.

This will be a positive, substantive agenda, but let us always recognize a singular truth: policy pronouncements can only be translated into reality when they have the active support of the American people. That is why I am turning to you for help -- financial help that is needed to make my campaign a success and to set the country on a better course for the future. I hope that you will join me.

I believe in America and I believe that when Americans work together, there is almost nothing we cannot accomplish. Let this be the year when we rekindle the Spirit of '76, and let us work together to make the Bicentennial a fitting celebration for America.

Sincerely,



Gerald R. Ford

Older
Senior Citizens —

April 6, 1976

Mr. F.E. Forster
126 Pemugwood Avenue
Roosevelt, New York 11575

Dear Mr. Forster,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman
for Administration



~~Order~~
Senior Citizen ✓

April 6, 1976

Mrs. C.V. Bates
1015 Christie Avenue
Princeton, West Virginia 24740

Dear Mrs. Bates,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman
for Administration



It is a sad time for me we would
have been married 48 years this 1st
March 6th. But we have always tried
to support the Republican Party as
we could, I am here alone and can
not even get out without one of my
daughters or son in law helping me due
to a pull from the spine going away
on me 1974, but I am enclosing
an offering just as much as I would
like to but due to circumstances I
cant send as much as I would like
to, but hope to help what I can send.
Mrs. L. V. Bates

Important Reminder

March 10, 1976

The President Ford Committee will not be soliciting funds in the period after the Republican National Convention, inasmuch as funds will be provided under the new Federal Elections Campaign Act. That is why it is important that you support President Ford today.

Under the new election law, the Republican National Committee is the only committee allowed to spend up to \$3,300,000 in direct support of and in consultation with the Republican nominee for President. In addition, the RNC plans to actively support Republican candidates for the House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate and for candidates for Governor. Accordingly, we feel it is vitally important that you financially support the RNC in addition to your financial support of the President Ford Committee.

Thank you.

Mr. E. V. Bates deceased
June 18, 1975 over

Give "Certificate"

GERALD R. FORD
WASHINGTON

We think you
have done a fine
job, and your being
a Christian in the
Lord pleases me
I read your
testimony in Insight
Published by Rev. Rex
Humbard
in Akron, Ohio

February 16, 1976

deceased
7 Mrs

Mr. C. V. Bates
1015 Christie Ave
Princeton, West Virginia 24740

Dear Mr. Bates:

In the past, you have generously supported the Republican party and its candidates for office. Today, I am writing to ask for your support for my own campaign.

Let me try to set forth what I believe can be accomplished with your help and that of other concerned Americans. As I see it, our country 17 months ago began an experience that was unique in the history of our democracy: we transferred the reins of the highest office in the land to a man chosen for that office under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.

The country was facing one of its sternest tests. Bitterness, rancor and distrust festered in the body politic. The longest, most divisive war in our history was winding toward an unhappy conclusion, and many feared that the end of an external war would mean the beginning of an internal war of recriminations. And finally, our economy was afflicted with the disease of inflation -- inflation so serious that it would ultimately drive us into the worst recession in a generation. Clearly, there were great challenges both for me and for the Nation.

I have tried during these months to give my very best to the American people and to the causes which we hold dear as a Nation. I lay no claim to perfection; much remains to be done. But the hemorrhaging has been stopped, and the process of healing has begun. Our spiritual and economic health is returning.



The moment has now come, I believe, when we can begin to look ahead once again -- to envision the America we would like to see during our third century as a Nation and to formulate concrete programs that will make our dreams come true. Our Bicentennial should be more than a year of brass bands and birthday banners; it should be a year when we choose a fresh, positive course for ourselves and for our children.

*Older
Senior Citizen ✓*

April 5, 1976

Miss B. Rickey
Route 4, Box 348
Anderson, Indiana 46011

Dear Miss Rickey,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik
Deputy Chairman
for Administration



GERALD R. FORD
WASHINGTON

(over)

February 16, 1976

Miss B. Rickey
Route 4, Box 348
Anderson, Indiana 46011

Dear Miss Rickey:

In the past, you have generously supported the Republican party and its candidates for office. Today, I am writing to ask for your support for my own campaign.

Let me try to set forth what I believe can be accomplished with your help and that of other concerned Americans. As I see it, our country 17 months ago began an experience that was unique in the history of our democracy: we transferred the reins of the highest office in the land to a man chosen for that office under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.

The country was facing one of its sternest tests. Bitterness, rancor and distrust festered in the body politic. The longest, most divisive war in our history was winding toward an unhappy conclusion, and many feared that the end of an external war would mean the beginning of an internal war of recriminations. And finally, our economy was afflicted with the disease of inflation -- inflation so serious that it would ultimately drive us into the worst recession in a generation. Clearly, there were great challenges both for me and for the Nation.

I have tried during these months to give my very best to the American people and to the causes which we hold dear as a Nation. I lay no claim to perfection; much remains to be done. But the hemorrhaging has been stopped, and the process of healing has begun. Our spiritual and economic health is returning.

The moment has now come, I believe, when we can begin to look ahead once again -- to envision the America we would like to see during our third century as a Nation and to formulate concrete programs that will make our dreams come true. Our Bicentennial should be more than a year of brass bands and birthday banners; it should be a year when we choose a fresh, positive course for ourselves and for our children.

Dear Mr President;
If you had kept the price
of oil & Gasoline down,
maybe I would have had
a few dollars.

As it is, I am a Senior Citizen
on a fixed income, too old
to work. My oil bill has been
running around \$60⁰⁰ a month.
my light bill has been \$25⁰⁰
a month. Could you live on
a fixed income at that rate?

I heard you give a speech on
T.V. about taking control off oil.
you said the elderly would
get a refund on oil. I have not
seen one penny.
you promise, but forget.

Sincerely

Mrs Bonnie Richey
R4 - Box 348
Anderson, Ind. 46011



Senior Citizens: General

February 18, 1976

Success

Mr. G. Leroy Eckardt
Assistant Regional Representative
National Association of Retired
Persons
O'Hare Office Center North, Suite 108
2720 Des Plaines Ave.,
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

Dear Leroy:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the President's Special Message to Congress on older Americans along with a copy of the White House fact sheet on his proposal.

Thank you so much for your recent note which I found to be of great use.

Please give my best to Karen and the family.

Sincerely,

Fredric W. Slight
Director of Research

Enclosures

