

Chronological: Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Local 5

Speeches, Box SP6, Folder 6

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9/7/83

CALLED AND ADVISED SALLY THAT DKI USED
THE ATTACHED SPEECH FOR THE HOTEL AND
RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES AND BARTENDERS INTERNAT'L
SPEECH ON 9/4/83.

mlj

CIRCULATE AND RETURN TO M.L.

for pg
J

HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES
AND BARTENDERS INTERNATIONAL
UNION, LOCAL 5

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 4, 1983

I HOPE YOU WILL ALL RECALL GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN'S CAMPAIGN

THEME FOR THE 1980 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. AT THE CONCLUSION OF

HIS TELEVISED DEBATE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, RONALD REAGAN ~~ASKED~~ SAID

THE FOLLOWING:

NEXT TUESDAY IS ELECTION DAY. NEXT TUESDAY ALL OF

YOU WILL GO TO THE POLLS, WILL STAND THERE IN THE

POLLING PLACE AND MAKE A DECISION. I THINK WHEN

YOU MAKE THAT DECISION, IT MIGHT BE WELL IF YOU

WOULD ASK YOURSELF: ARE YOU BETTER OFF THAN YOU

WERE FOUR YEARS AGO?

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IS IT EASIER FOR YOU TO GO AND BUY THINGS IN THE
STORES THAN IT WAS FOUR YEARS AGO? IS THERE MORE OR
LESS UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE COUNTRY THAN THERE WAS
FOUR YEARS AGO?

WITH THESE QUESTIONS, RONALD REAGAN SUGGESTED THAT UNDER
THE LEADERSHIP OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER, OUR COUNTRY HAD GONE
TO PIECES. WELL, I WOULD LIKE TO POSE THE SAME QUESTION TODAY
THAT RONALD REAGAN ASKED US THREE YEARS AGO.

ITEM 1: WHEN PRESIDENT CARTER LEFT OFFICE, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STOOD AT 7.5% (JANUARY, 1981). TODAY, AFTER A YEAR OF DOUBLE DIGIT UNEMPLOYMENT, IT STANDS AT 9.5% (JULY 1983). DO YOU THINK WE ARE BETTER OFF TODAY THAN WE WERE WHEN PRESIDENT REAGAN TOOK OFFICE?

ITEM 2: IN JANUARY 1981, 8,048,000 AMERICANS WERE UNEMPLOYED. UPON TAKING OFFICE, PRESIDENT REAGAN PROMISED TO CREATE 13 MILLION NEW JOBS IN THE UNITED STATES BY 1986. INSTEAD, THERE ARE TODAY 10,590,000 PEOPLE OUT OF WORK. *Plus 2 million - given up* DO YOU THINK OUR COUNTRY IS BETTER OFF TODAY THAN IT WAS THREE YEARS AGO?

ITEM 3: WHEN RONALD REAGAN TOOK OFFICE, THERE WERE ON THE AVERAGE 277 BUSINESS FAILURES PER WEEK (JANUARY 1981). THERE ARE CURRENTLY 578 FAILURES PER WEEK (JULY 1983), WITH A TOTAL OF 17,450 FIRMS GONE BANKRUPT IN THE FIRST 7 MONTHS OF 1983 ALONE. WOULD YOU SAY THAT WE ARE BETTER OFF UNDER PRESIDENT REAGAN THAN WE WERE UNDER PRESIDENT CARTER?

ITEM 4: WHEN JIMMY CARTER LEFT THE WHITE HOUSE, THE UNITED STATES WAS USING 81.3% OF ITS INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY (JANUARY 1981). THIS RATE HAS SLIPPED TO 74.5% IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR. DO YOU THINK AMERICA IS BETTER OFF TODAY THAN IT WAS WHEN RONALD REAGAN TOOK OFFICE?

ITEM 5: WHEN PRESIDENT REAGAN WAS INAUGURATED, OUR BALANCE OF TRADE WAS RUNNING A DEFICIT OF \$4.77 BILLION (JANUARY 1981). IN JUNE 1983, THE TRADE DEFICIT WAS \$4.96 BILLION, WITH PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE WORSENING AS INTEREST RATES CREEP BACK UP AND THE VALUE OF THE DOLLAR HITS NEW HEIGHTS AGAINST MOST MAJOR FOREIGN CURRENCIES. WOULD YOU SAY THAT THREE YEARS OF REAGANOMICS HAS IMPROVED AMERICA'S POSITION?

ITEM 6: SINCE 1981, POLICIES IMPLEMENTED BY THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAVE RESULTED IN THE TERMINATION OF 800,000 PEOPLE FROM THE FOODSTAMP PROGRAM, 3,000,000 FROM THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM, AND 500,000 FROM THE SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM. DO YOU THINK THAT THE NEEDY IN AMERICA ARE SUFFERING LESS THAN WHEN RONALD REAGAN BECAME PRESIDENT? (INDEED, HOW IS IT THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN ADMITTED ON AUGUST 2ND, 1983, ~~TO BEING CONCERNED--~~ BUT PERPLEXED--THAT HUNGER IS A PROBLEM IN THE UNITED STATES?)

that he was
He was surprised w/hunger in the US

ITEM 7: IN 1980, 13 PERCENT OF ALL AMERICANS WERE LIVING BELOW THE OFFICIAL POVERTY LINE. THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU HAS JUST ANNOUNCED THAT THIS FIGURE CLIMBED TO 15 PERCENT IN 1982-- THE HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE 1965. DO YOU THINK OUR COUNTRY IS BETTER OFF UNDER PRESIDENT REAGAN THAN DURING THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION?

ITEM 8: IN 1980, OUR NATION SPENT \$249 BILLION, OR 9.5% OF OUR GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT, ON HEALTH CARE. UNDER THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION, WHICH CLAIMS CREDIT FOR REDUCING THE INFLATION RATE, HEALTH CARE COSTS HAVE RISEN TO \$322 BILLION IN 1982, OR 10.5% OF OUR GNP. DO YOU THINK WE--ESPECIALLY THE ELDERLY--HAVE FARED BETTER UNDER PRESIDENT REAGAN THAN WE DID UNDER PRESIDENT CARTER?

ITEM 9: ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION, THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES HAS PLACED OUR NATION AT RISK. YET IN FISCAL YEAR 1981, PRESIDENT REAGAN PROPOSED TO CUT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S BUDGET AUTHORITY BY \$880 MILLION, OR 6.1% BELOW THE FY 1980 LEVEL. IN FY 1982, HE PROPOSED TO REDUCE IT \$2.35 BILLION OR 15.7% BELOW ITS FY 1981 LEVELS. IN FY 1983, HE REQUESTED CUTS OF \$4.27 BILLION, OR 29% LESS FOR EDUCATION THAN IN FY 1982. AND FOR FY 1984, PRESIDENT REAGAN IS SUGGESTING THAT WE REDUCE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S BUDGET BY \$2.11 BILLION, OR 13.8% LESS THAN IN FY 1983. CONGRESS HAS MANAGED TO BLUNT PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ATTACKS ON EDUCATION,

BUT DO YOU THINK WE ARE ~~FAIRING~~ ^{DOING} BETTER UNDER THIS ADMINISTRATION
THAN WE DID UNDER PRESIDENT CARTER'S?

ITEM 10: THREE YEARS AGO, AMERICA SUFFERED THROUGH THE IRANIAN
HOSTAGE CRISIS. I AM VERY HAPPY THAT THIS TRAGEDY WAS RESOLVED, AS
WAS PRESIDENT CARTER, EVEN IF AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI WAITED UNTIL RONALD
REAGAN WAS SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BEFORE RELEASING
THE HOSTAGES. PRESIDENT CARTER PAID A HEAVY POLITICAL PRICE BECAUSE OF THAT
NEW NAME IN THE WORLD NEWS, THE AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI, BUT TODAY WE ARE HEARING
MORE NEW NAMES AND LEARNING OF MORE UNFAMILIAR PLACES: MAGANA AND D'AUBUISSON
IN EL SALVADOR; RIOS MONTT IN GUATEMALA; ORTEGA IN MANAGUA, NICARAGUA; AND
PRESIDENT HABRE IN N'DJAMENA, THE CAPITAL OF CHAD.

AS THE LIST EXPANDS, MOTHERS BEGIN TO WONDER IF THEIR SONS
WILL SOON BE CAUGHT UP IN FIRE FIGHTS ALONG THE HONDURAN-NICARAGUAN
BORDERS DURING U.S. "TROOP MANEUVERS." IF AMERICANS WERE
DISSATISFIED WITH ~~CERTAIN ASPECTS~~ OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S FOREIGN
POLICY, HOW DO YOU THINK THEY FEEL ABOUT PRESIDENT REAGAN'S?

IN NOVEMBER, 1984, AMERICANS WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO
GO TO THE POLLS TO ELECT THEIR NATIONAL LEADERS. THIS WILL
ENABLE US ALL TO REGISTER OUR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF
PRESIDENT REAGAN'S POLICIES. IT WILL ALSO SEND A SIGNAL TO
THE REST OF THE WORLD ABOUT WHETHER WE FEEL WE ARE BETTER OFF
TODAY THAN WE WERE WHEN PRESIDENT REAGAN TOOK OFFICE. I TRUST
THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT LET THIS OPPORTUNITY PASS THEM BY.